

Food for Thought

Cooking Up Exceptional Workplace Skills

Setting up for dining service on Tuesday morning at Trinity Cafe's Nebraska location is extra fun with the enthusiastic help of Nico, Derius, Steven, Kiana, and LoRonda, students at LaVoy Exceptional Center. They participate in the Graduates Moving About the Community (GMAC) program as part of the Hillsborough County School District. This program caters to students aged 18 to 22 who are living with autism, physical handicaps, emotional and behavioral disabilities or major cognitive developments and have graduated from county schools.

LaVoy and the GMAC program promote essential restaurant skills, such as preparing bread baskets, filling drinks, rolling silverware, and setting tables. Leading the students is LaVoy teacher John LoScalzo, with Para-Professional Alfredia Moore providing backup.

Nico enjoys rolling the silverware. He appreciates how working at Trinity Cafe has helped him learn about folding napkins and filling ice in drinks. LoRonda has a close friend who has been a guest at Trinity Cafe in the past. She likes to set up the butter, bread, water and tea for use in serving meals.

Kiana also likes rolling the silverware, and she enjoys setting tables. Her favorite meals to make are salads and sandwiches, which she does at the LaVoy Lunch Express Cafe, another project run entirely by the students at their school campus. The LaVoy Cafe gives the students further opportunities to serve customers by taking orders, preparing customized meals, and ringing up customer payments at the cash register. Derius believes this work is teaching him how to follow rules and directions, which are vital skills in the workplace.

Trinity Cafe's Program Director Cindy Davis believes the partnership has been very beneficial for the cafe as well as the school.

"We're delighted to partner with the Hillsborough County School District's GMAC program and provide an environment for their students to develop restaurant workforce skills. It is rewarding to see each student perform their duties with great concentration and care. They take pride in preparing our dining room for guests each week. Trinity Cafe is grateful for their contributions to our service!" – Cindy Davis



"If only my pockets were as generous as my thoughts, world hunger would be no more, homelessness would be a memory and poverty would cease to exist."

– Tracey Denise Leonard

Cafe Locations:

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Tampa, FL 33602

2202 E. Busch Blvd.
Tampa, FL 33612

Office:

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Suite 300
Tampa, FL 33602

Phone: 813.865.4822

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 320146
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*A Non-Denominational Charity
Trinity Cafe is a 501(c)(3)
Not-For-Profit Organization*

www.TrinityCafe.org

Sister Marie Celeste, Advocate for Trinity Cafe, Passes Away

On September 8th, Trinity Cafe received word that Sister Marie Celeste Sullivan, OSF, died peacefully at the Motherhouse of the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany in New York. Sister Marie Celeste was the Administrator of St. Joseph's Hospital for 23 years. She was an extraordinary woman, an exemplary Franciscan and a beloved friend to many. Sister Marie Celeste was a strong advocate for Trinity Cafe during its early years, writing grant requests and making major donor calls with the Trinity Cafe founders and board members.

Board Chairman Jeff Darrey recalls making a Trinity Cafe donor call with Sister Marie Celeste on Jim Ferman, who lightheartedly commented, "Uh-oh, you brought in the A-team, this must be a serious request!"

We extend our sympathies and prayers to the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.



15 Years of Service Celebrated!

On October 6th, we gathered more than 250 of our closest friends to share 15 stirring stories of humanity. We shared many stories including: the guest who gave up his shoes so another person could enter the cafe for a meal; Debbie who sleeps on the porch of the terminally ill man she cares for; Doug who finds safety inside the gates of the cafe to rest each morning after spending his nights on the streets. These stories and others touched and inspired those in attendance. Charlie G. who frequently plays the piano at our second location provided our entertainment for the night. We also heard from Leonardo Villanueva who was inspired to write a song for our volunteers. Guests enjoyed a gift basket raffle that included more than 30 different gift baskets.

With your help, we raised enough to prepare and serve more than 50,000 meals with dignity! Thank you to a very generous community of sponsors, donors and volunteers for your overwhelming generosity!

For more highlights check out the video on our YouTube channel!
<http://bit.ly/2fcp2us>



Event chairpersons, Erin Farha (L) and Ernest Hooper (R) with Program Director Cindy Davis.



Debbie cares for a terminally ill man and sleeps on his porch.



Pianist Charlie Gilmer entertained at the event.



Event guests watch video on the life and ministries of Sister Maureen.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 8, 2016, 8-9 a.m.

A "Tasty" Tour and Introduction to Trinity Cafe, 2801 N. Nebraska Ave.

Are you interested in learning about the history and future of Trinity Cafe? You will be treated to a tasty breakfast prepared by Chef Ben, enjoy a tour of our facility and learn more about our plans. RSVP by Dec. 6 to skeagle@trinitycafe.org

February 1, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

Outrageous Charity Bingo

(Not your church Bingo!)

Reserve your spot for an evening of bawdy entertainment for a good cause at Hamburger Mary's, 1600 E. 7th Ave., Ybor City.



A minimum \$10 food or drink purchase required. Bingo cards are \$10 each (cash only). Doors open for dinner at 5:30 p.m. Bingo starts at 7:30 p.m. with prizes, gift basket raffle and 50/50 fun!

Reservations required. This event will sell out! Reserve your spot today by calling 813-241-6279. Let them know you are with Trinity Cafe!

If you wish to donate a gift basket for the raffle please contact **Charity Bingo coordinator, Arlene Berkowitz: arb17211@yahoo.com**



February 13, 2017

The 10th Anniversary of the FrankCrum Invitational Sponsored by Broadspire at Innisbrook Golf Resort

This is your shot to feed the hungry and homeless! Frank Crum says, "At the conclusion of this 10th anniversary milestone event, we anticipate this tournament will have raised \$1 million dollars. Every person who participates in the FrankCrum Golf Invitational should know that I am grateful for all that we've been able to do together for our brothers and sisters in need."

Sponsorships available. Complete details online: www.tournevents.com/fci2017 or contact tournament director, **Brigitte Becker at 727-450-7908 or brigitteb@fwcruminsurance.com**

Meet Doug Wanek

Doug is the volunteer Pastry and Dessert Chef for Trinity Cafe. He prepares cookies, brownies, and puddings on weekdays. He is an important part in making sure that our guests have a great ending to their meals. He is always thinking about what sweet pastry we'll serve next.



What was your first job?

I was a dishwasher at a restaurant in New Jersey.

Where are you from?

I lived in New Jersey for 35 years, and I've lived in Florida for 31 years.

What do you enjoy most about this job?

I enjoy watching the guests enjoy their desserts. I like to see that.

Do you come here and work every day?

No, I'm just a volunteer; I come in four days a week. I've been retired for 10 years now.

What is your favorite meal?

I like a hamburger and French fries with chocolate cream pie.



Get to Know Sous Chef, Taisha Wilkins

Taisha is one of the sous chefs of Trinity Cafe. She helps prepare and serve the food to our guests on weekdays. She is a professional with a charming and happy attitude.

What was your first job?

I was 15 years old. I was working at a barbecue restaurant, and I cut the meat and helped with the cooking.

Where are you from?

I'm originally from Waycross, Georgia, which is an hour away from Jacksonville, Florida.

What do you enjoy most about this job?

Giving back. I've always dealt with people in my jobs, whether it's being a nurse or cooking.

What are you most proud of?

I am most proud of being a mother and giving back to the community.

What is your favorite meal?

Southern soul food! I like mac & cheese, cornbread, collard greens and fried chicken.

Whatever I make, I always cook it with heart. That's important to me. If I go in the kitchen, and I'm feeling mad or sluggish, my food won't come out as good. If I take my time with it and put my heart into it, then it always tastes good.



Year-End Gifts Provide Meals this Holiday Season and Beyond

Happy Holidays! This year as we prepare our homes for Thanksgiving and Christmas, we will likely prepare large meals, gather for fellowship and give thanks. When you choose to give this holiday season, you will be helping alongside cheerful givers like Wayne.

Wayne bikes everywhere, including the local warehouse where he works. He will often roll into Trinity Cafe a little sweaty but always with a big smile. On his days off, Wayne makes a point to volunteer. Wayne used to be a guest but now he regularly gives back. Wayne makes donations of \$5. His

donations have grown in number starting with occasional gifts to now almost weekly gifts. Wayne's generosity reminds us that gifts of all sizes and types combine to support Trinity Cafe every day.

Without your gifts, we would not have been able to serve more than 1.19 million meals with dignity to guests just like Wayne. We are grateful for the volunteers, donors and supporters who help us to make a difference every single day, because hunger doesn't take a holiday!

Will you consider an end-of-year gift to help those in need? A special year-end gift will help us serve even more meals with dignity this holiday season and into the New Year!

As you gather with your family and friends this holiday season, we hope you experience tremendous blessings. Thank you for ensuring that men, women, and children in need receive the humanity that begins with a meal!

TIPS FOR YEAR-END GIVING!

- Date your check on or before December 31st and mail via the U.S. Postal Service with postmark on or before December 31st.
- Hand-deliver your check and/or ship for delivery to Trinity Cafe's office by 5 p.m. on December 30th.
- Make a gift online at <http://www.trinitycafe.org/donate-now> by 11:59 p.m. on December 31st.

Your gift of securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds)

- Gifts of securities (stocks, bonds, and mutual funds) require planning.
- The amount of your charitable deduction depends on the value of the securities at the time the gift is complete.
- Mutual fund gifts: Start early to determine the fund's processing time, which varies widely from fund to fund. Some can complete your transfer within days of receiving your instructions; some take six weeks or more. Deadline is December 30th, 2016.
- For all gifts of securities: please notify our account manager of your intention to make a gift of stock: Sandra Keagle skeagle@trinitycafe.org or 269-420-2619

Reduce income tax on your 2016 Roth IRA conversion

If you converted your traditional IRA to a Roth IRA this year, you can offset the taxable income generated by the conversion by making a charitable gift to Trinity Cafe or by making an additional pledge payment on an existing gift. Timing is the key. Your Roth conversion and your gift work together, so to ensure your plan works as you intend, your gift or pledge payment should match the tax year in which the income is reported. Consult your accountant or financial advisor to make sure your Roth conversion and your charitable gift fit your overall tax strategy.

Charitable IRA rollover is permanent

The popular charitable IRA rollover, also called a qualified charitable distribution (QCD), was made permanent in 2015. Many Trinity Cafe donors age 70½ or older have used this option to make qualifying charitable gifts that were excluded from taxable income and counted toward their required minimum distribution (RMD).

To qualify, gifts must be transferred directly from the IRA provider to Trinity Cafe and meet certain other requirements. Please tell your broker or fund manager to name you as the donor on the transfer.

Plan ahead to maximize benefits of your 2016 gift to Trinity Cafe

Maximize your tax benefits. Begin early to evaluate the charitable gifts you have made this year, and those you are considering. Allow time to consult financial advisors and to complete all necessary steps in time to count your gift for the 2016 tax year.

Many blessings to you this holiday season!

Trinity Cafe Board of Directors

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