



MEDIA RELEASE 21/08/14

PERTH'S TOP CHEFS COOKING FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Get down to Perth Arena for a unique pop up lunch event on Friday 29 August and find some of Perth's top chefs cooking up a storm using food rescued by local organisation Food Rescue. Between 12pm and 2pm, four chefs will be creating a range of delicious take away lunches for Perth's hungry CBD workers. Get involved and help Food Rescue support people in need.

Russell Blaikie from Must Winebar, Don Hancey WA Food Ambassador, Vince Garreffa from Mondo Meats and Sophie Budd from Taste Budds Cooking Studio will all be drawing the crowds, and sharing their culinary skills by making four different, delicious treats for you to choose between - all while supporting an amazing organisation.

Russell Blaikie, Chef/Partner of Must Winebar and one of Food Rescue's longest standing Ambassadors has this to say:

"As a chef it upsets me to see perfectly usable fresh food being discarded as landfill, when it could be put to good use in meals for people that may have suffered hardships in life. Food Rescue provides that fresh-food conduit to people who are in need of nutritious, fresh produce."

"When I was asked to come on board, I felt compelled to help out in any way I could; in doing so I found a wonderful group of volunteers who make the organisation viable, they are the quiet heroes of Food Rescue, and it is deeply satisfying and humbling to lend a hand."

Food Rescue is a UnitingCare West service which is currently rescuing over 8,000 kilos of fresh perishable food every week. The rescued food is then distributed for free to over 50 local charities who in turn offer food parcels or prepare meals for individuals and families in the community who are in need.

"We have great collaboration with the food industry and they assist us in identifying wastage that is edible and suitable. Often the only thing wrong with a food item is that it is misshapen slightly or has a small blemish."

“As a grassroots WA owned and operated initiative, Food Rescue relies on community involvement and support and is a 100% philanthropically funded service.”

“I encourage all CBD workers to come on down to the Perth Arena terrace to enjoy some delicious lunches at this unique pop up event and support Food Rescue by donating \$5 for a lunch token. All proceeds raised through the event will go directly to helping people in need,” said Sue Ash AO, Chief Executive Officer at UnitingCare West.

This unique event is being supported by Alinta Energy, Food Rescue’s Principal Partner and Perth Arena through their Community Partners Programme.

Event Details

Date Friday 29 August 2014

Time 12:00 noon to 2:00pm

Venue Perth Arena Outside Terrace

Cost By donation

Contact Details

For quotes and comments please contact:

Sue Ash AO, Chief Executive Officer, UnitingCare West

Phone: 9355 9002

Email: sue.ash@unitingcarewest.org.au

For more information and photo opportunities, please contact:

Allison Plenk, Marketing and Advancement Officer, UnitingCare West

Phone: 9355 9002

Email: Allison.plenk@unitingcarewest.org.au

About UnitingCare West Food Rescue:

Food Rescue aims to alleviate hunger by rescuing perishable, fresh and nutritious food from cafes, caterers, supermarkets and wholesalers and delivering it to disadvantaged, vulnerable people. Over 50 charitable agencies receive the donations and run programs to assist a variety of people in need including people experiencing homelessness, women and children in crisis, vulnerable young people, indigenous communities, elderly people, refugees and new arrivals and families on low incomes.

Connect with Food Rescue on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FoodRescue>