

For Immediate Release

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MARTHA'S VILLAGE & KITCHEN PRESENTS STEVE MITCHELL CULINARY JOB TRAINING PROGRAM TO TEACH COOKING AND HOSPITALITY SKILLS TO IMPOVERISHED AND HOMELESS IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY.

Annually over 100 students will receive free job skills training including Food Handlers Cards and Serve Safe Certificates.

Indio, CA— The homeless and impoverished men, women and children of the Coachella Valley continues to grow each and every day. More and more families are becoming homeless due to lack of employment, housing rates and other financial struggles.

Martha's Kitchen has nourished the impoverished for nearly thirty years. Now, MVK will launch a culinary training program, thanks to a generous gift from The Harman Family, from this same kitchen to prepare residents and people in the community for employment in the hospitality industry. With the addition of specialized tools and equipment, this program will allow MVK to not only feed the impoverished, but also train them for gainful employment. MVK's existing career and education services, including basic computer skills, resume writing, and job search strategies will bolster the culinary training program.

The culinary program is expected to produce approximately 100 graduates a year and is expected to have an estimated economic impact of nearly \$18 million over the next five years. Gainful employment opportunities are going to help hundreds of men, women and families get back on their feet and to a life of self-sufficiency.

What: Steve Mitchell Culinary Program Unveiling

Who: In attendance

- Steve Mitchell Culinary students in action
- Reed & Nan Harman – Established the program at MVK
- Family of Steve Mitchell
- Distinguished Donors and Guests
- Martha's Village & Kitchen Board Members & Staff

When: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at 10:00am

Where: Martha's Village & Kitchen – 83791 Date Avenue, Indio, CA 92201

About Martha's Village and Kitchen

Martha's Village & Kitchen is one of the largest providers of homeless services in the Coachella Valley and Riverside County. Almost a quarter of a million meals are provided by Martha's to those in need each year. Martha's Village & Kitchen offers programs based on the nationally recognized "continuum of care model." Programs include Emergency Housing, Food Services, Children's Services, Career and Education, Healthcare, Case Management and Emergency Assistance. Martha's Village & Kitchen serves neighbors in need by responding to their needs with food, clothing, shelter and an opportunity to become self-sufficient by affirming their dignity with respect, support and compassion. www.marthasvillage.org

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