PRESS ADVISORY

WHITE HOUSE INSIDER AND CHEF SAM KASS KICKS OFF NORTHWEST HARVEST FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY YEAR WITH PANEL PRESENTATION ON “CREATING A CULTURE OF HEALTH & WELLNESS FOR EVERYONE”

Northwest Harvest hosts a conversation with White House insider Sam Kass on April 22nd at Benaroya Hall. Kass and a panel of local and national thought leaders and change agents will focus on “Creating a Culture of Health & Wellness for Everyone,” examining the intersection of food and health in our community.

The event is April 22nd at the Ilsley Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall. For more information: www.LeadingTheFight.org.

Kass is the former Executive Director of Let’s Move! and Senior Policy Advisor for Nutrition Policy in the Obama Administration. Kass’ unique insights help to explore and explain the latest developments in health care while he shares inspiring personal stories and tackles the serious issues that impact us all.

Joining Kass on stage will be panelists:

- Marcus Ricelli is Washington State Representative. He serves as Vice Chair to the Health Care & Wellness Committee.
- Gerald Wright, Hunger and Food Resources Director for Solid Ground. He is responsible for leading and strategically directing the agency’s program activities that focus on food resources.
- Scott Forslund is Executive Director of the Providence Institute for a Healthier Community. He serves on a number of boards and councils including Washington State Governor Jay Inslee’s Council for the Healthiest Next Generation.
- Ben Danielson, MD, is Medical Director of Odessa Brown Children’s Clinic of Seattle Children’s Hospital. He also serves on Washington State’s Commission on African American Health Affairs and King County’s Board of Health.
- Shelley Rotondo is CEO of Northwest Harvest. In addition to leading Northwest Harvest since 1990, Shelley has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to community service.
- Christina Wong, Public Policy Manager at Northwest Harvest. Christina also serves as the chair of the steering committee for the Anti-Hunger & Nutrition Coalition.

Northwest Harvest is Washington’s home-grown food bank distributor. Each month, Northwest Harvest provides more than two million nutritious meals and supports a statewide network of more than 380 food banks, meal programs and high-need schools, focusing on stable, nutritious, culturally-sensitive foods critical to body and mind. Throughout its 50 years, Northwest Harvest has grown from a project of local activists to its position today as the leader in fighting hunger in Washington State. For Northwest Harvest, its 50th anniversary is a time for reflection and a call to an ever more efficient, inspiring and impactful future.

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