

# CHARLOTTE

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## WINE + FOOD

CONNOISSEURS FOR A CAUSE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### CHARLOTTE WINE + FOOD | CHARITY PARTNER MEAL PROGRAM

**Charlotte, N.C. (April 21, 2020) – Charlotte Wine + Food (CW+F)** is thrilled to announce a new **Charity Partner Meal Program, developed in response to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis and in collaboration with our local restaurant partners.** CWF Board Members generously donated over \$6,000 to this program, which is estimated to provide approximately 300 meals across CW+F’s four charity beneficiaries: GenOne, Mitchell’s Fund, The Learning Collaborative, and The Relatives.

As COVID-19 stay-at-home orders were implemented, many of CW+F-supported charities expressed that their served populations were facing meal shortages. At the same time, the event’s restaurant partners have been forced to halt dine-in operations and drastically reduce their staff, which has led to unprecedented unemployment levels for this segment of the community. To help address these needs, CW+F organized a special meal program to deliver meals to the populations served by each of their charity partners for the month of April. Using the funds raised, these meals are being purchased from select CW+F restaurant partners that are best suited to meet the needs outlined by each charity partner. The program has created an avenue for CW+F to continue supporting both their impacted restaurant partners and charity partners, particularly during this difficult time.

In the first round of deliveries beginning Thursday, April 16, GenOne received 20 family meal packs for their young scholars and their families, who have suffered from the loss of school meals; 25 hot boxed lunches were provided to healthcare workers at Novant Health Hemby Children’s Hospital caring for children with life-threatening pediatric illnesses on behalf of Mitchell’s Fund; 10 family meal packs were provided to families who suffer meal shortages and have pre-school aged children enrolled at The Learning Collaborative; and 35 meals were provided to The Relatives Youth Crisis Center and their On Ramp Resource Center to help them continue serving meals to young adults facing homelessness, a task made more challenging in recent weeks due to reductions in its volunteer core and onsite staff.

“This is a great way for Charlotte Wine + Food to support our community at large who have all been impacted by COVID-19. We are so grateful for our amazing charity partners, restaurant partners, as well

as our staff and board members that came together to make this program possible” says Alison Summerville.

At time of the release, CW+F has placed orders with local restaurant partners including Dish, Napa on Providence, Noble Smoke, Porcupine Provisions, Seasoned Provisions, Sweet Lew’s BBQ, and Swirl. CW+F Board Members not only donated funds to make this program possible but also volunteered their time to pick up meals and make no-contact deliveries.

Charlotte Wine + Food Week presented by Truist, CW+F’s largest annual fundraiser, previously scheduled for April 22-25, 2020 has been postponed to the fall of 2020, with most events set to take place October 15-17. A challenging outcome of this postponement is that our charity beneficiaries will be negatively impacted and likely see reduced distributions as a result of this necessary change. We hope this meal delivery program stands as a testament to our commitment to our deserving charity partners and to our incredible community of restaurants that help make CW+F events possible.

CW+F will be accepting tax-deductible donations through its website at [www.charlottewineandfood.org](http://www.charlottewineandfood.org) for the month of April with 100% of proceeds going toward this program.

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## **ABOUT CHARLOTTE WINE & FOOD**

Charlotte Wine + Food brings together leading wine industry experts from around the world and pairs them with Charlotte’s top chefs to celebrate and advance public knowledge of and appreciation for fine wine and food, while making significant contributions to charitable organizations that benefit children and their families in the Charlotte community.

In 1989, a group of civic-minded wine and food enthusiasts had a vision of creating a series of events to raise money for charity. Out of this vision, Charlotte Wine + Food was born and has proudly contributed over \$5.5 million to the community over the last 31 years. With time and care, the organization has grown in stature and evolved but remains one of Charlotte’s premier cultural institutions attracting winemakers, vintners, and sommeliers from around the world while celebrating the best of Charlotte’s culinary landscape. What started as a “Weekend” of events taking place bi-annually is now a year-round series of events that culminate in a multi-day wine and food experience each April. From intimate vintner dinners and tastings to large gala dinners and live auctions, Charlotte Wine & Food has something for anyone interested in wine, food, fun, and fundraising!

Charlotte Wine + Food is a non-profit 501(c)3 directed by a fellowship of wine and food connoisseurs that make up its volunteer board of directors. All events benefit strategically selected charity partners that support children and their families in the local community. The beneficiaries for Charlotte Wine + Food’s 2019-2020 fiscal are GenOne, Mitchell’s Fund, The Learning Collaborative, and The Relatives.