

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Starpoint and Loaves & Fishes are partnering for a fall fundraiser to benefit both organizations during the current COVID restrictions. While many non-profits have postponed or cancelled their fundraisers this year the Starpoint Foundation and Loaves and Fishes fundraising committee have joined forces in a unique effort.

The cancellation of Starpoint's Annual Forks – Corks – Farms – Chefs created an opening and opportunity that still involved two critical elements...food and a worthy cause. Several options were explored but under the state and local restrictions of mass gatherings, masking and social distancing, we determined that joining forces to support other nonprofits would not only be the most responsible decision, but one that would leave us with warm regards.

Recently, Beth Katchmar catered a Starpoint Foundation Board meeting. During the meeting, she overheard our concerns and conversations. She jumped in and said "How about I make pans of lasagna and we partner with Loaves & Fishes to feed those in need?" From that seed, and community suggestion, the Foundation Board contacted Loaves & Fishes, and it was no surprise that their fundraising committee was on board. It wasn't long after that the event was named, 'Pasta-bilities,' as suggested by Starpoint CEO, Bryana Marsicano. The proceeds from the event will be split between the two organizations.

Community members may purchase a pan of lasagna, family salad and breadsticks for \$50. That purchased ticket will feed a family in need of a warm meal. Starpoint Foundation board members will pickup the prepackaged meals and deliver them to Loaves and Fishes, at which time, Loaves and Fishes staff will then deliver the meals to families. Though, this event was planned due to COVID-19, we believe it will be an event that will be celebrated for years to come. When nonprofit organizations work together, the Pasta-bilities are endless.

Pizza Madness/Beyond Madness will be providing the essential elements while Red Ball Sales will be providing the pans, to go boxes and prepackaged utensils.

Scheduled delivery dates are October 12th, 19th and 26th and the \$50 donation can be made by credit card through Classy, Starpoint's fundraising application. Classy is a safe and secure on-line process with receipts automatically generated. The Classy platform is live now at <u>www.classy.org/event/pasta-bilities/e297873</u> and donations will be accepted until the final deadline of October 22nd.

All proceeds will benefit Starpoint and Loaves and Fishes. Since 1977 Starpoint has served adults and children with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Since 1984, Loaves & Fishes have been serving people who are experiencing homelessness and poverty by providing essential services and life-changing programs.



