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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ASUCLA Restaurants Donates More than 3,000 Pounds of Food During COVID-19 Outbreak

Westwood, Calif. – April 15, 2020 – Despite the disruption to normalcy and feelings of uncertainty that have stemmed from the COVID-19 pandemic, we still see daily reminders that compassion, helpfulness, and community support are all around us. To that end, **ASUCLA Restaurants has donated thousands of pounds of food on campus and beyond**, helping address a need for food and meals in the greater Los Angeles area.

Given UCLA's campus closure in the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak, ASUCLA Restaurants closed its doors as well, including its catering services. That left a surplus of food, including pre-made entrees, that could not be sold or provided during events. Instead, ASUCLA worked quickly to ensure that the **more than 3,000 pounds of food and meals** could be donated before it went to waste.

Some items went to The Food Closet at UCLA, an on-campus food pantry that benefits students as well as members of the greater Bruin community. ASUCLA Restaurants also collaborated with the Helping Hands Pantry—which works to address food insecurity in LA County – to provide provisions such as dairy products, plant-based protein meals, ready-made sandwiches, and other boxed meals. And still with food give, ASUCLA worked with the Alliance of College-Ready Public Schools to host local pop-up grocery stores and provide much-need items such as fruits and vegetables, packaged meats, bread, bottled beverages, and snack foods.

“All of our lives and communities have been greatly impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic, and with all the concerns weighing on our minds, being able to put food on the table should not be one of them,” said Cindy Bolton, ASUCLA Director of Food Operations. “ASUCLA is humbled and grateful to give back to the communities that support us every day and to do what we can to make things just a little easier for individuals and families during this time.”

COVID-19 continues to challenge us and alter our routines and social structures, but it also provides new opportunities to renew our sense of community and togetherness. ASUCLA continues to be committed to serving UCLA students, the greater Bruin community and beyond through donations from its restaurants' division, keeping the Hill Top Shop open for UCLA students who remain in on-campus residence halls, and providing online resources for remote education.



About ASUCLA:

Associated Students UCLA (ASUCLA) is a not-for-profit association founded in 1919, which delivers vitally important student services and activities throughout the campus of the University of California Los Angeles. ASUCLA boasts the largest college store in the United States, an extensive food service program, UCLA® brand licensing program through UCLA Trademarks & Licensing, and a network of other services and programs that includes student government and student media, which greatly enhances the quality of UCLA's campus life. For more information about ASUCLA, please visit www.asucla.ucla.edu.