

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Elisa Vásquez
(626) 586-1762
Elisa.Vasquez@lacdc.org



Community Development Commission/
Housing Authority
of the County of Los Angeles
700 W. Main Street, Alhambra, CA 91801

9th ANNUAL FARM DINNER HELD TO BENEFIT THE GROWING EXPERIENCE URBAN FARM'S OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMS

Event Proceeds Support Local Farm of Carmelitos Public Housing
Development and the Surrounding Long Beach Community



Long Beach, September 28, 2018 – The Growing Experience (TGE) hosted its 9th Annual Farm Dinner Fundraiser. This year, the dinner had 175 attendees, including City of Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia and

Councilmember Al Austin, Herlinda Chico, Field Deputy for Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn's office, and Laserfiche Chief Executive Officer Chris Wacker.

The event was made possible by sponsorships from Primal Alchemy Catering, The Boeing Company, and locally-sourced ingredients and supplies from The Wine Country, Lost Car Chef Apparel, and Liberation Brewery. During the dinner, participating chefs showcased their culinary talents by using seasonal produce grown onsite at TGE, as well as other local, sustainable ingredients to prepare appetizers and a three-course meal for attendees to enjoy.

The menu was developed by Executive Chef Paul Buchanan of Primal Alchemy Catering, who is an advocate for sustainable food and partners with TGE for multiple events. The lineup of culinary talent included chefs from Primal Alchemy Catering, Electric City Butcher, 4th & Olive, Terranea Resort, Gladstones, Restauration, Oceans and Earth, and Coronado Marriott. The dinner concluded with ice cream created by Long Beach Creamery, and artisan chocolate created by Anandamine Psychedelicatessan.

The proceeds from the Farm Dinner are going toward growing TGE as a Social Enterprise, which will apply commercial strategies for funding to maximize improvements in economic, social, and environmental well-



being. The goal is to earn income through the sale of value-added foods and snacks. Through the enterprise's operations, TGE can fulfill its mission to provide low-income and disadvantaged residents with jobs, education, technical and soft skills.

For more information on TGE, please contact Holly Carpenter, Program Manager, at (562) 984-2917. All media may contact Elisa Vásquez, Community Development Commission/Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles Public Information Officer, at (626) 586-1762.

###

About The Growing Experience

The Growing Experience (TGE), a project of the Community Development Commission/Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles, is located within the Carmelitos Public Housing Development and works to increase access to healthy foods for underserved residents of the North Long Beach community. TGE has received several local, state, and national awards for its innovation, and the contributions it has made for residents with limited means in the community. TGE also offers after-school and summer programs for disadvantaged youth, volunteer work opportunities, workshops on urban agriculture, and a composting site.