

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE The Food Drive Jana Gimenez, Executive Director 617-501-7134 fooddrivemelrose@gmail.com

## Harvest Fundraiser for The Food Drive

Melrose, MA (October 25, 2022) - The Food Drive is hosting "Harvest," the nonprofit's first-ever fundraiser, on November 12, 2022, from 7:00 to 10:00 PM at Memorial Hall in Melrose. Since feeding the community is their mission, The Food Drive is planning a casual evening of fall foodie fun, featuring small plate tasting stations and desserts from eleven local food establishments, festive autumn cocktails, live music, and unique raffles. In addition to raising much-needed funds, the event is designed to reflect The Food Drive's commitment to community and sustainability, since hyperlocal is also their mission.

Tasting stations will be provided by Bobby C's Ristorante, Buckalew's General Store, Giacomo's Melrose, Mexico Lindo, T'ahpas 529, and Turner's Seafood, along with new Melrose-based crepe cart Kindred Crepes, and Melrose Farmer's Market vendor Mei Mei Dumplings. Cupcakes and seasonal chocolates will be provided by Sweet Spot Bakery and Yara Chocolate, coffee by Starbucks Melrose, and Fabian Ton of Fabian's European Pastries will host a dessert station.

Guests will enjoy live music from jazz duo Bruce Gertz, bass, and Giovanni Moltano, guitar, both Melrose residents and professors at Berklee College of Music. Featured items for the silent auction and raffle include a "Star Wars" score autographed by composer John Williams and framed by Miter Biter; an exclusive Behind-the-Scenes Animal Experience at Stone Zoo or Franklin Park Zoo; and box seats, dinner, and scoreboard name feature at a 2023 Red Sox Game.

The Food Drive is a grassroots nonprofit tackling hunger and food waste in communities north of Boston. By partnering with commercial and community sources, their staff and over 150 volunteers recover viable food that would have been discarded and deliver it at no cost to pantries, low-income housing, and other recipients within a 15-mile radius – literally driving food from the point of potential waste to the point of need. To date, The Food Drive has distributed 420,000 pounds (210 tons) of food, which translates to 365,000 meals, 1 million pounds of greenhouse gas emissions prevented, and \$714,00 in value. Proceeds from the event will help The Food Drive carry on this important work.