

GASOL FOUNDATION TEAMS UP WITH WORLD CENTRAL KITCHEN TO PROVIDE HEALTHY MEALS AND EMERGENCY RELIEF FOR THOUSANDS OF VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IMPACTED BY COVID-19



LOS ANGELES (May 21, 2020) - Gasol Foundation, a nonprofit organization founded by NBA stars Pau and Marc Gasol, is teaming up with World Central Kitchen to bring immediate relief and healthy solutions to children and families impacted by COVID-19.

The two organizations will host a collaborative distribution event at the Forum in Inglewood this Saturday, May 23rd, providing thousands of grab-and-go meals, diapers, backpacks and take-home activities for kids to enable them to remain active and healthy while staying at home.

School closures have derailed the lives of children all over the world. World Central Kitchen has answered the call by providing nutritious fresh meals to students who are reliant on the meals they receive at school. Gasol Foundation is teaming up with World Central Kitchen's food distribution programs and providing vital resources and tools to empower children to stay healthy at home.

Gasol Foundation works to eradicate childhood obesity through the promotion of healthy eating, physical activity and sports, sleep quality, and emotional well-being. Evidence shows that when children are out of school, they eat unhealthier foods, are less active, increase screen times, and have irregular sleep patterns; all of which are linked to further health complications resulting from weight gain and obesity. Gasol Foundation and World Central Kitchen are joining forces to ensure children stay healthy and thrive.

"During this crisis, collaboration is more critical than ever to help vulnerable children and families struggling to meet their most basic needs," said Pau Gasol, Co-Founder of the Gasol Foundation. "This pandemic has not only exacerbated food insecurity issues, but also threatens the physical and mental wellbeing of kids, who no longer have sports and physical activity as part of their daily regimen. Children are under greater stress and their routines have been upended. Together, the Gasol Foundation and World Central Kitchen are committed to providing

not only immediate relief, but also to provide long-term interventions and create sustainable solutions for children and families.”

World Central Kitchen’s Founder, Chef José Andrés, is a longtime friend of Pau and Marc Gasol. All three hail from Spain and share a passion for food and a commitment to transforming communities through empowering them to live healthier.

"My amigos Pau and Marc, we share a DNA, our parents all worked in medicine when we were young. They grew up learning empathy and compassion towards others, which they are showing through the Gasol Foundation and its work to provide healthy, nutritious meals and other relief for children and their families," said José Andrés, World Central Kitchen's founder. "World Central Kitchen is proud to stand beside them in Los Angeles, San Antonio, and our native Spain to help in this time of need."

In addition to Los Angeles, Gasol Foundation and World Central Kitchen have launched initiatives in San Antonio and will soon launch in Spain, to continue their ongoing efforts to protect the health and well-being of children globally.

About Gasol Foundation

Gasol Foundation is a nonprofit organization founded in 2013 by NBA Champion brothers, Pau and Marc Gasol. Gasol Foundation works to reduce childhood obesity rates and focuses all its energy and resources on promoting and transmitting healthy lifestyles amongst children, adolescents and their families, both in the United States and Spain. Through the implementation of holistic, data-driven programming and the key involvement of family and educators, programs promote children’s knowledge, attitudes and habits for their full development. More information at: <https://www.gasolfoundation.org/>

About World Central Kitchen

Founded in 2010 by Chef José Andrés, World Central Kitchen (WCK) uses the power of food to heal and strengthen communities through times of crisis and beyond. WCK has transformed the field of disaster response to help devastated communities recover and establish resilient food systems. Since its founding, WCK has served over 19 million meals to those impacted by natural disasters and other crises around the world in countries including Albania, The Bahamas, Colombia, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Mozambique, Spain, Venezuela, and the United States. Learn more at WCK.org.

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