



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Darcie Maurer
262.522.3805
darcie@twcwaukesha.org

The Women's Center is 2018's "Gal-a-lotta" Awardee *Collaborative partnership offers unique evening of community engagement, awareness*

WAUKESHA, Wis. – On August 23, hundreds of local young professionals will gather at the newly-renovated Italian Community Center for “Futures Free From Violence: Games & Grooves After Hours,” an event benefiting The Women’s Center through the annual “Gal-a-lotta” award from Care-a-lotta, the charitable arm of The Bartolotta Restaurant Group. “Futures” will be catered by Bartolotta’s, and the event will feature food stations, interactive games and raffle prizes, and music in the courtyard by 88Nine Radio Milwaukee’s DJ Tarik.

The Women’s Center’s Executive Director, Angela Mancuso, calls this the perfect opportunity to invite new friends to get involved and learn about The Women’s Center. “One of our priorities is to increase opportunities throughout our community to share our mission with young and “young at heart” professionals, and this partnership allows us to do just that, while offering an evening of good music and great food in a reimagined space,” said Mancuso.

With over twenty years of experience in the Milwaukee restaurant market and a household name in the area, The Bartolotta Restaurant Group has long made charitable giving a priority through its desire to support local nonprofits. Care-a-lotta Director Jennifer Bartolotta started the “Gal-a-lotta” initiative as a way to help local organizations raise awareness and funds through a collaborative effort. The event’s expenses are covered by The Bartolotta Group, and Bartolotta employees volunteer their time to staff the event and help the chosen organization make the evening a success.

The Women’s Center was awarded, according to Assistant General Manager at Lake Park Bistro and Care-a-lotta Board member, Zoe Lord, “because together we recognize the importance of empowering women and their families. We hope our partnership will build awareness and further the mission for this crucially important resource in our community.”

Honored to be chosen from 60 other applicants, The Women’s Center’s mission is to provide safety, shelter, and support to empower all impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and trafficking. It is the only agency of its kind in Waukesha County, and serves the community through programs like emergency shelter, a 24-Hour Hotline, transitional living,

counseling and support groups, legal advocacy, community education and violence prevention, and employment and life skills training. They provide translation and interpretation in any language, and child care while utilizing their services is offered to clients free of charge, along with all the programs listed above.

The event begins at 6pm at the Italian Community Center on Thursday, August 23. Tickets and more details are available at <https://twcwaukesha.org/event/futures-free-from-violence/>.

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About The Women's Center

Founded in 1977, The Women's Center serves adult and child survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and trafficking. The Women's Center offers free and comprehensive programming including: emergency shelter & 24-Hour Hotline; legal advocacy; family counseling; domestic violence, sexual assault and abuse counseling; substance abuse and mental health support; transitional living; community education and violence prevention; and employment counseling and life-skills development.

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