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### **KaTom Restaurant Supply Holiday Campaign Yields \$5,000 Donation to Second Harvest**

MARYVILLE – With the help of customers who embraced a campaign at the holiday season to provide assistance for the hungry, KaTom Restaurant Supply Wednesday contributed \$5,000 to Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee.

The money was raised through a promotion by the restaurant equipment company in which it pledged a \$2 donation to Feeding America affiliates for every product review submitted to its website. The contribution made by KaTom Founder, President, and CEO Patricia Bible on the company's behalf fulfilled that vow and will help feed thousands in East Tennessee.

"It was important to us that we support a cause that is at the heart of who we are, so Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee, a local Feeding America partner, was a natural choice," Bible says. "I am so excited that our team had the brilliant idea of inviting our customers to be part of this gift. I don't think there's a group that steps up more to help our neighbors who struggle with hunger than the foodservice industry, and those folks responded in an amazing way to this project."

In addition to the \$5,000 contribution, KaTom Foodservice Solutions Manager Jim Cygan presented Second Harvest Executive Director Elaine Streno with a gift that will help provide 1,750 meals to families in need. That contribution and 278 pounds of canned food items were presented in Bible's honor on behalf of the employees of the company she founded in her home's garage 27 years ago.

KaTom leadership has been looking for new ways to get the company involved in the East Tennessee community since it moved from its former Russellville location to a new headquarters in Kodak in late 2012. With an eye toward the core of KaTom's business in foodservice, Bible tabbed agencies and initiatives that address hunger as the primary recipients of its support moving forward.

As part of that approach, the company contributed a dozen much-needed trash cans to Sevier County Food Ministries in late 2013. That agency, which recently served a record of more than 1,900 Sevier County families in one week, is one of the 520 organizations in East Tennessee that receive support from Second Harvest. Through donations of food, cash contributions, and other gifts, Second Harvest provides tons of food to those non-profits every week and they, in turn, distribute it to those in need.

"We appreciate the generous gift and partnership from KaTom, and we look forward to a long and prosperous relationship," Streno says.

As part of that partnership, KaTom is a corporate sponsor of Knoxville Restaurant Week, which will be in its fourth year as it runs from March 2-7. Restaurants across the Knoxville municipal area will offer special three-

course dinner menus for fixed prices of either \$25 or \$35 per person, with \$5 from each meal contributed to Second Harvest by participating restaurants.

For more information about Knoxville Restaurant Week, visit [www.knoxrestaurantweek.com](http://www.knoxrestaurantweek.com).

### **About KaTom**

KaTom Restaurant Supply, celebrating 27 years of excellence in East Tennessee, is an online, catalog and in-person retailer of restaurant equipment and items for the residential kitchen. The Kodak, Tenn., based company's phenomenal growth in recent years has netted it recognition as one of the Top 300 Businesses of the South by *Business Leader Magazine*, a spot on the *Inc.* 5000 list of the nation's fastest growing companies for five years running, and a finalist position from *Inc.* as a Next Economy Hero. KaTom can be reached at 1-800-541-8683 and its website is at [www.katom.com](http://www.katom.com).