



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Marcie Dearth, VP External Relations
(407) 637-0374
mdearth@impowerfl.org

Help IMPOWER By Dining At Any Columbia Restaurant in September

September 9, 2021 - Support IMPOWER by dining at any Columbia Restaurant in September.

Through its month-long 24th annual Community Harvest program, the Columbia donates 5 percent of all diners' checks to charities selected by the guests. Over the last 23 years, the Columbia Restaurant's Community Harvest has donated more than \$2.6 million to non-profit organizations throughout Florida.

Community Harvest involves each of the Columbia locations, including Ybor City in the historic district of Tampa, St. Armands Circle in Sarasota, St. Augustine, Sand Key on Clearwater Beach, Central Florida's town of Celebration, the Columbia Cafe on the Riverwalk in downtown Tampa at the Tampa Bay History Center and the Columbia Restaurant Cafe at Tampa International Airport.

All Columbia locations are open seven days a week for lunch and dinner. For more information, see www.ColumbiaRestaurant.com

"We started this program as a way to help many of the worthy non-profit groups that are so important to our communities," said 4th generation family member and president Richard Gonzmart.

Gonzmart said the process is simple: Choose a charity from a ballot that's provided with the check. The restaurant calculates the 5 percent and provides the charity with gift certificates that can be used for up to 12 months. There's no additional cost to the guest.

The original Columbia Restaurant was founded in Tampa's Historic Ybor City in 1905 by Cuban immigrant Casimiro Hernandez, Sr., and is Florida's oldest restaurant.

All Columbia locations are owned and operated by 4th and 5th generation members of the founding family, except for the Columbia Restaurant Cafe at Tampa International Airport, which is operated in partnership with HMSHost. You can follow them on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

IMPOWER is grateful to the Columbia and for the continued support of the Community Harvest program.

About IMPOWER

IMPOWER, a 501 (c)(3) organization, is a leading non-profit behavioral health and child well-being organization focused on "inspiring life's potential". Established in 1994, IMPOWER serves more than 9,000 individuals and families statewide each year and has provided over 1m telehealth visits since 2011. Programs and services include: outpatient mental health and substance misuse treatment, youth residential substance abuse treatment and prevention, foster care/adoptions and youth transitional housing. For more information visit www.impowerfl.org.

###