

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**“RestaurantsforResponders.org”** Launches Today with \$30,000 Bellevue Breakfast Rotary Club (BBRC) Donation to Match Individual Contributions and Purchase Meals from Local Restaurants to Feed Medical Workers and Support Community Businesses

*Bellevue Mayor Lynne Robinson to join BBRC volunteers delivering meals to Overlake Hospital staff today*

**April 8, 2020 – Bellevue, WA** – Bellevue Breakfast Rotary Club ([BBRC.net](http://BBRC.net)), a 501(c)(3) non-profit group of volunteers dedicated to serving local and world communities to provide systematic and enduring change, today announced its \$30,000 donation to the [RestaurantsforResponders.org](http://RestaurantsforResponders.org) program it launched to support local restaurants and responders by purchasing and delivering meals to feed hard-working medical workers in our community. Today Overlake Hospital Staff will receive a delivery of 150 meals purchased from Tutta Bella restaurant in Bellevue, as well as an award plaque of appreciation from Bellevue Breakfast Rotary Club (BBRC) honoring Overlake Medical Center’s service to our community.

“**RestaurantsforResponders.org** volunteers will deliver more than 2,500 meals purchased from local restaurants – including Redmond Bar and Grill, Tutta Bella in Bellevue, and Heritage Restaurant in Woodinville – to healthcare workers at Overlake Hospital, Evergreen Hospital and other healthcare organizations during the coming weeks,” said Girish Bhatia, President Elect of Bellevue Breakfast Rotary Club. “Our investment enables us to match, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$30,000 of individual tax-deductible contributions to double their impact and provide more assistance. We are immediately delivering support to healthcare workers and local restaurants, as our community works together to meet the challenges of stopping the spread of COVID-19.”

**COVID-19 Realities for Overlake Medical Center**

“Thankfully, we have been preparing for COVID since early February. As of April 6th, Overlake has performed over 1,700 COVID tests, has had 290 positive tests, and has an average census that ranges between 50 and 70 hospitalized COVID-positive or rule-out patients,” said David Knoepfler, MD and Chief Medical Director at Overlake Medical Center. “These COVID patients require an enormous amount of resources and staff to optimally provide care. All our doctors, nurses and staff have stepped up to provide the safest and highest quality care in an incredibly challenging time.”

“Today everyone can help provide support to healthcare workers and local restaurants by visiting [RestaurantsforResponders.org](http://RestaurantsforResponders.org) and making whatever tax-deductible donation they can, which will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to our \$30,000 contribution,” stated Bhatia. “Each

contribution goes directly towards purchasing more meals that feed healthcare workers and support local businesses.”

### **Tutta Bella Restaurant Creates 300 Fresh Meals for Healthcare Staff**

“I am thankful for Bellevue Breakfast Rotary Club’s **RestaurantsforResponders.org** program supporting Tutta Bella by purchasing 300 of our freshly prepared meals for healthcare workers in our community,” said Joe Fugere, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Tutta Bella. “We are grateful for the dedication and teamwork of all healthcare workers and staff as they continue to provide necessary care and human connections that patients need as they work through this pandemic. You are truly heroic, and we love you for it!”

### **About RestaurantsforRepsonders.org**

**RestaurantsforResponders.org**, a community service program of the non-profit 501(c)(3) Bellevue Breakfast Rotary Club, makes it simple to contribute tax-deductible donations that support local restaurants through the purchase nourishing meals which are delivered by volunteers to feed hard-working responders, healthcare workers and staff who care for our community.

### **About Bellevue Breakfast Rotary Club**

Chartered in 1985, the Bellevue Breakfast Rotary Club ([BBRC.net](http://BBRC.net)) is non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that is home to more than 100 community-minded individuals dedicated to serving above self and to participating in Rotary International's ([Rotary.org](http://Rotary.org)) mission to promote understanding, goodwill, and world peace. Its mission is to help disadvantaged children and their families lead happier, healthier, and more productive lives. The BBRC’s vision is to cultivate a dynamic membership that enhances our club values to serve our local and world communities by providing systemic and enduring change.

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