



***For Immediate Release***

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**CHEFS FOR HUMANITY JOINS FORCES  
WITH THE UNITED NATIONS WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME  
TO STUDY AND FIGHT HUNGER AROUND THE WORLD**

**First Venture Is Field Visit to Nicaragua and Honduras December 3 – 8, 2007**

**Chefs for Humanity President/Founder Cat Cora and Acting Director Diane Burstein  
Tour Nations with World Food Programme's Jonathan Dumont and Alejandro Chicheri**

**NEW YORK, October 00, 2007** – Chefs for Humanity (CFH), an alliance of culinary professionals and educators working in partnership with United States and global organizations to provide nutrition education, hunger relief and emergency and humanitarian aid to reduce hunger around the world, will join forces and share resources with The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), beginning with a field visit to Honduras and Nicaragua December 3 – 8. The field entourage will study the challenges facing the area, including child under-nutrition, poverty, the impact of climate change and the devastation caused by Hurricane Felix as well as observe the positive impact of school feeding programs.

Cat Cora, President/Founder of Chefs for Humanity, and CFH Acting Director Diane Burstein will meet WFP's Head of Television Communications Jonathan Dumont and Public Information Officer Alejandro Chicheri in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, on December 3. On December 4, the entourage will visit the "dry corridor" where an estimated 100,000 people are in need of food as a result of drought. At least 20,000 children and more than 5,000 pregnant or breast-feeding women are suffering varying degrees of acute under-nutrition. The group departs for Managua, Nicaragua, on December 5, and then flies to the Caribbean coastal town of Bilwi, in the northern part of the country, which is recuperating from widespread destruction caused by Hurricane Felix.

On December 6, the group will visit the remote regions of Miskitos, Mayagnas and Ramas, which are mainly inhabited by Afro-descendants, as well as indigenous communities that retain their own culture and dialects – all of whom survive by subsistence agriculture, hunting and small-scale fishing. The highest poverty rates in the country are found in these regions – 61% of the population is in poverty and 20% is in extreme poverty.

On December 7, the group takes a two-hour over-land journey to Matagalpa in the northern zone where WFP is carrying out its Country Program and a Protracted Relief and Rehabilitation Program. The field visit includes a health center where pregnant and breast-feeding women and children under age two (who are at nutritional risk) receive WFP rations as well as medical attention and training in hygiene, health and nutrition provided by the Ministry of Health.

The team returns to their home bases on December 8 and begins to research, assess and discuss ways that Chefs for Humanity can help these areas and others around the world.

“The trip will be a hands-on, up-close exploration of the challenges, needs and possibilities in these areas,” explains Chef Cora. “With a core team of some of the world’s leading professional chefs, Chefs for Humanity is looking forward to working with the World Food Programme to fight hunger and create ways to help people help themselves in a sustainable way.”

Chefs for Humanity will observe the World Food Programme’s ongoing efforts and discuss ways the organization can help with nutritional recipes using the area’s available resources as well as corn/soy blend and food provided by WFP. (Corn/soy blend is a blend of partially precooked cornmeal, soy flour, salt, and oil, plus vitamins and minerals.)

Follow-up actions and details from the field visit will be released at a later date.

The World Food Programme is the world's largest humanitarian aid organization. The food aid arm of the United Nations, WFP's goal is to meet emergency needs, support economic and social development and provide logistics support necessary to get food aid to the right people at the right time and in the right place. WFP works to put hunger at the center of the international agenda, promoting policies, strategies and operations that directly benefit the poor and hungry. The organization helps victims of natural disasters, displaced people and the world's hungry and poor, who are trapped between poverty and malnutrition. WFP also believes that women are the first solution to hunger and poverty. Women not only cook food, they sow, reap and harvest it; yet, in many developing countries, they eat last and least.

For more information, visit [www.chefsforhumanity.org](http://www.chefsforhumanity.org) and [www.wfp.org](http://www.wfp.org).

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