



Joseph Vicari named LLS National Man of the Year 2016

Andiamo owner is nationally recognized, helped raise \$177,000 toward cure for blood cancers

WARREN, Mich. June 30, 2016 – The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) announced today that Joseph Vicari, owner of Andiamo Restaurant Group, has been named 2016 National Man of the Year.

Vicari participated as a national nominee for the organization's largest annual fundraiser, the Man & Woman of the Year competition. Today, organizers at LLS announced that Vicari's participation encourage more than \$177,000 in donations. The money raised supports efforts – locally and nationally - to fund blood cancer therapies.

"I want to thank all who generously donated to support this effort," said Vicari. "While it is an honor to earn this title, it means even more to know that all donations to this effort will help us toward a world free of blood cancers."

Vicari participated in the Man & Woman of the Year program in honor of his close friend, James Giftos, who passed away in 2011 after a long battle with Multiple Myeloma, a blood cancer related to Leukemia. Giftos founded National Coney Island and was an esteemed figure in Detroit business.

Andiamo locations and its visitors across metro Detroit helped to support this effort. On June 11, the Andiamo Celebrity Showroom in Warren served as the setting for the 2016 Man & Woman of the Year gala.

From March 30 to June 10, 2016, all nine Andiamo locations and Joe Muer Seafood served as donation drop-off locations, and many individually hosted special events to support the effort and mission of LLS.

In Royal Oak, Andiamo General Manager Patti Mooradian and Beverage Manager Chris LaMacchio co-hosted a celebrity bartender night that raised more than \$2,700 alone for LLS, while Andiamo locations in Sterling

Heights and Livonia reported more than \$5,000 toward the cause and in Warren, \$4,000 over the course of the effort.

For every dollar raised on behalf of any Man & Woman of the Year candidate, one vote was given to that candidate toward earning the title of Man or Woman of the Year. While Vicari has participated and supported the LLS effort in the past, this marks his first year as a national candidate, and national Man of the Year recipient.

About Andiamo Restaurant Group

Andiamo Founder and CEO Joseph Vicari knows what it takes to build a Restaurant Group based on three simple Italian principles – great food, great family, and great zest for life. Over the last 26 years, Vicari has developed nine Andiamo Restaurants which have redefined Italian dining in metro Detroit, as well as one location in Las Vegas and one inside Detroit Metro Airport. Vicari, who also owns the award-winning Joe Muer Seafood, has 17 restaurants in his restaurant empire. For locations, hours, menus and more information, visit www.andiamoitalia.com.

About Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) is the world's largest voluntary health agency dedicated to blood cancer. The LLS mission is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. The organization funds lifesaving blood cancer research around the world and provides free information and support services.

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