



GOD'S LOVE WE DELIVER RETURNS TO SOHO WITH OPENING OF NEW MICHAEL KORS BUILDING

Opens Anna Wintour Volunteer Center and Joan Rivers Bakery

**Expanded facility ensures the nonprofit's ability to meet growing demand
for its services: providing nutritious meals to the metropolitan area's severely ill**

NEW YORK – June 9, 2015 – God's Love We Deliver today dedicated their newly renovated and expanded SoHo home at 166 Avenue of the Americas, now known as The Michael Kors Building at God's Love We Deliver. The building also includes the Anna Wintour Volunteer Center and the Joan Rivers Bakery, both of which were dedicated as part of today's ceremonies.

Michael Kors has given his time, financial support and huge heart to God's Love and to those suffering from hunger worldwide for more than 20 years. Annually Michael volunteers in the God's Love kitchen and delivers to clients, as does his entire team every July during "Michael Kors Volunteer Month." In 2012, God's Love honored Michael with its Golden Heart Award for Lifetime Achievement, and later that year Michael joined the God's Love Board of Directors. God's Love is especially grateful to Michael Kors and everyone at the Michael Kors Company for their generosity – in total, they have helped raise nearly \$15 million for God's Love We Deliver.

Michael Kors, Anna Wintour and Melissa Rivers joined Mayor Bill de Blasio and other notable New Yorkers as well as God's Love staff, donors, and volunteers to celebrate the launch of the new facility in a special ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony. The ARC gospel choir joined the day's festivities, singing "I'm Working On A Building," "Your Love Keeps Lifting Me Higher," and "Oh Happy Day."

The nonprofit has been cooking and delivering nutritious, individually-tailored meals to people living with severe illnesses in the metropolitan area for over 30 years and currently serves more than 1.4 million meals to some 5,200 people each year. The new Michael Kors Building allows the organization to meet the growing demand for its services, up 94% over the last eight years.

"With the dedication of our expanded facility, we will, together with our thousands of caring and committed volunteers and supporters, continue to serve the most vulnerable among us, meeting an ever-increasing demand for our program," said Karen Pearl, President & CEO of God's Love We Deliver. "Every day, more and more sick and hungry New Yorkers reach out to God's Love looking for help. The

Michael Kors Building allows us to continue to respond to the urgent needs of our clients for years to come. We will provide all those who need us with life-sustaining – and life-affirming – services at no charge and without a waiting list.”

“God’s Love We Deliver epitomizes the power of human kindness. Since 1985, when Ganga Stone delivered food at the height of the AIDS epidemic, this organization has brought dignity, respect and love to those it’s served. We are so proud to be a part of this expansion, which will enable God’s Love to deliver over 1.4 million meals to those in need. This mission of compassion is one the City of New York stands squarely behind,” said Mayor Bill de Blasio.

The God’s Love expansion project, which was made possible, in part, by an \$8 million city grant and private gifts, including more than \$5 million from Michael Kors, more than doubles the organization’s space – from 18,000 square feet to over 48,500 square feet.

“God’s Love We Deliver has been helping and healing our community for more than 30 years, bringing home-cooked meals to people who are ill and, in the process, turning strangers into neighbors,” said Michael Kors. “They are a precious resource for so many people, and it’s a privilege to be able to help them grow and expand their vital mission.”

At the heart of the six-story building designed by Gerner Kronick + Valcarcel, Architects, DPC, is the new 9,600-square-foot kitchen, where the over 1.4 million meals delivered annually will be prepared. The space has four industrial-size refrigerators, three freezers, including five blast freezers, five 80-gallon soup kettles and a waste digester that converts up to 1,000 lbs. of organic food waste into waste water in less than a day, significantly reducing trash volume.

The facility also includes a new bakery, named The Joan Rivers Bakery in honor of the late comedian, talk-show host and author who supported God’s Love for over 25 years and sat on the Board of Directors for 20 years. Her daughter Melissa, who, continuing her mother’s legacy and commitment, joined the God’s Love Board last year, was on hand to open the space at the special dedication ceremony.

The bakery, which includes five industrial-size ovens and two massive mixers, will be the main workspace for Chuck “The Baker” Piekarski, who will continue the 20-year tradition of baking all of the desserts for every God’s Love client, child and senior caregiver, as well as personalizing their birthday cakes, in the new space.

“I am so moved that God’s Love We Deliver is honoring my mother’s legacy by naming their new bakery after her,” said Melissa Rivers. “For as long as I can remember, this amazing charity has been one she loved deeply and worked tirelessly to support. Nothing brought her a deeper level of satisfaction than being a part of it since the beginning and helping it grow.”

The building is also home to The Anna Wintour Volunteer Center, honoring Anna Wintour's more than 20 years of service and support to God's Love and made possible through a gift by Michael Kors, Lance Le Pere, John Idol and the Michael Kors company.

"I am honored by Michael, Lance and John's gift, and proud to be part of such a remarkable organization," said Anna Wintour, Artistic Director of Condé Nast and Editor in Chief of Vogue.

In addition to these spaces, the new facility also includes an expanded delivery and pack-out area, an enclosed loading dock and rooftop garden where herbs will be grown for the food that the non-profit organization plans to serve.

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About God's Love We Deliver

God's Love is the New York metropolitan area's leading provider of life-sustaining meals and nutritional counseling for people living with severe illnesses. Begun as an HIV/AIDS service organization, today God's Love provides for people living with more than 200 individual diagnoses. God's Love cooks and home-delivers the specific, nutritious meals a client's severe illness and treatment so urgently require. Meals are individually tailored for each client by a team of Registered Dietitians, and all clients have access to unlimited nutrition counseling. God's Love supports families by providing meals for the children and senior caregivers of its clients. All of the agency's services are provided free of charge, and in its history of more than 30 years, God's Love has never had a waiting list. For more information, visit godslovewedeliver.org. Follow God's Love on [Facebook](#) and follow them on Twitter, [@godslovenyc](#). God's Love is a non-sectarian organization.

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