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## **Sweet Charity offers evening of food and fun to benefit Food Bank of WNY**

**BUFFALO, NY** (January 22, 2018) — The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Sweet Charity to benefit the Food Bank of WNY will offer guests the opportunity to enjoy food and drink selections from a variety of Western New York establishments all under one roof. Presented by James Desiderio Inc., Sweet Charity will be held from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 1, 2018, at the Adam's Mark Hotel, 120 Church St., Buffalo, NY. Tickets for Sweet Charity are \$75 general admission, \$150 for the single All-Access Package or \$210 for the couples' All-Access Package. Tickets and more information are available at [www.foodbankwny.org](http://www.foodbankwny.org).

In addition to savory food items and delicious desserts, Sweet Charity will offer coffee, wine, beer and liquor tastings. Guests will have the opportunity to purchase \$20 chocolate bars that come with a guaranteed gift valued at \$20 or more, as well as participate in silent and live auctions, a basket raffle, a ring toss to win bottles of wine and a raffle to win a "Sur-Prize" gift box full of prizes totaling more than \$1,000 in value.

All proceeds from Sweet Charity will assist the Food Bank of WNY as it continues to provide nutritious food and support to hungry individuals and families in partnership with 341 agencies throughout Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie and Niagara counties.

"While hunger is a problem all year long, the wintertime can be especially difficult for our community members in need. No one should have to decide whether to heat one's home or purchase food for one's family," Tara A. Ellis, President and CEO of the Food Bank of WNY, said. "We encourage the community to come out to Sweet Charity and enjoy a wonderful evening filled with food and fun, all while benefiting a critical cause."

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Sweet Charity is being co-chaired by Tom Berical, CPA, a Director in the Audit and Accounting Department at Freed Maxick CPAs, P.C.; and Glenn Butler, Vice President of Personal Touch Food Service, Inc. Berical and Butler are both members of the Food Bank of WNY's Board of Directors. Berical also serves as Treasurer of the Board's Executive Committee.

Sweet Charity is made possible through many generous sponsors, including Decadent Sponsor – Delta Air Lines; Main Entrée Sponsors – JIT Toyota Lift, Lawley Insurance, NTT DATA, Tops Friendly Markets and Wegmans Food Markets; and Soufflé Sponsors – Chiampou Travis Besaw & Kershner LLP, Independent Health, M&T Bank, MAV Sales, Seneca Resorts & Casinos, and Syntel. Sweet Charity also is supported through Media Sponsors – The Buffalo News, WGRZ-TV Channel 2 and WKSE-FM Kiss 98.5.

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### **About the Food Bank of WNY**

The Food Bank of WNY is the primary hunger-relief organization in Western New York, obtaining and distributing food to 341 member agencies including food pantries, shelters, soup kitchens, youth programs, and senior centers in Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Niagara counties. Through these agencies, the Food Bank of WNY serves as many as 134,955 individuals in any given month, including more than 44,000 families, 55,000 children and infants, and nearly 16,500 seniors. For more information, visit [www.foodbankwny.org](http://www.foodbankwny.org).