



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF TAMPA BAY

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay Contact

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## **Columbia Restaurant to Host Annual Community Harvest to Benefit Local Charities**

**TAMPA, FL (September 2014)** – Let your appetite do the giving while you support local non-profit groups in Florida by dining at any of the seven Columbia locations in Florida during the entire month of September for lunch or dinner during the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Columbia Restaurant Community Harvest program.

Through this program, The Columbia donates 5% of all guests' lunch and dinner checks to the charitable organizations chosen by their customers during September. The Community Harvest occurs in all of the Columbia locations including Ybor City in the historic district of Tampa, St. Armands Circle in Sarasota, St. Augustine, Sand Key on Clearwater Beach, Central Florida's Town of Celebration, the Columbia Cafe on the Riverwalk in Downtown Tampa at the Tampa Bay History Center and the Columbia Restaurant Cafe at Tampa International Airport.

"We started this program in 1998 as a way to help many of the worthy non-profit groups that are so important to our communities," said 4<sup>th</sup> generation family member and President Richard Gonzmart. "We thought the best way to do this was by letting our customers get involved in selecting the organizations. The process is simple. They just put a check mark next to one of the charitable organizations listed on a form we provide. They turn it in to their server. We do the rest, and donate 5% to the charity."

"Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay has very been fortunate to be included in the Community Harvest for a number of years," said Brad Baumgardner, President of Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay. "The Gonzmart family has been so generous and involved in this community and we are grateful for partners like them, who are committed to making Tampa a better place."

Over the past 16 years, the Columbia Restaurant Community Harvest has donated more than \$1.5 million to non-profit organizations throughout Florida.

### **About The Columbia**

The original Columbia Restaurant was founded in Tampa's Historic Ybor City in 1905 by Cuban immigrant Casimiro Hernandez, Sr., and is now Florida's oldest restaurant. Additional Columbia locations include St. Armands Circle in Sarasota, the Historic District in St. Augustine, Sand Key on Clearwater Beach, Central Florida's town of Celebration, the Columbia Cafe on the Riverwalk in Tampa and the Columbia Restaurant Cafe at Tampa International Airport. All Columbia locations are owned and operated by 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> generation members of the founding family except for Columbia Restaurant Cafe at Tampa International Airport, which is operated in partnership with HMSHost. Please see [www.ColumbiaRestaurant.com](http://www.ColumbiaRestaurant.com) for more information.



### **About Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay**

Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay has been a positive force in the community since 1926; enabling young people to become productive, responsible and caring citizens through structured programming, safe learning environments and dedicated staff. With a focus on three core priority outcomes – Academic Success, Healthy Lifestyles, and Improving Character & Leadership, Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay provides opportunities to build new skills that raise a Club Member's belief that he or she can succeed and receive recognition for personal, social and academic accomplishments. With 18 Clubs throughout Hillsborough and Pasco counties, Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay makes futures great for more than 11,000 young people each year.