

a simple solution to world hunger

CONTACT:

Helena Finnegan Mary's Meals USA Communications Manager helena.finnegan@marysmeals.org 239-290-7788

5th Annual Concert at Winery Will Benefit Mary's Meals

Nashville Artists Return to Missouri to Perform Benefit Concert for global charity.







Drop Dead Dangerous and Phoenix Mendoza will perform at the Canterbury Hill Winery & Restaurant in Holts Summit.

Bloomfield, N.J. – **June 6, 2023** – Nashville performers Drop Dead Dangerous and Phoenix Mendoza return to Holts Summit, Missouri for the 5th Annual Concert to Benefit Mary's Meals on Thursday, June 22 at 6 p.m. Both return for a third time to the Canterbury Hill Winery & Restaurant to help raise funds for global school-feeding charity, Mary's Meals.

"Mary's Meals is one of the most beautiful, selfless organizations I have ever had the privilege of working with. Every aspect of their mission is dedicated to the betterment of humanity, and I couldn't be prouder to help," stated Mendoza.

Classic rock artist Phoenix Mendoza will be joined by fellow Nashville artists Drop Dead Dangerous known for their country music style, for an evening of music, food and wine at the scenic winery overlooking the Missouri River near Jefferson City.

"We are so privileged to be able to come together for a fun evening with great music and food all at a scenic winery," said Michelle Keller, Missouri regional coordinator for Mary's Meals and organizer for this annual event. She added, "We can support our local small business as well as accept donations that will support global children in need."

Founded in 2002 by Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow, Mary's Meals offers a simple solution to world hunger: feed children where they learn to enable the education that can help break the cycle of poverty. Currently, Mary's Meals provides meals to 2,429,182 children every school day in 5,084 schools in 18 countries including Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Kenya, Lebanon, Malawi, Myanmar, Niger, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen.

Despite continued high prices for food, fuel, fertilizer and transportation, Mary's Meals offers an effective, locally-managed, school-feeding program by working with local farmers, where possible, to source food and supplies, and community volunteers to prepare, cook and serve meals every school day. This efficient and economic model enables it to feed a child for an entire school year for just \$25.20.

"Our goal for this concert is to feed 800 children at school through Mary's Meals school-feeding programs," said Keller. Past concert events have helped to feed as many 600 children each year.

Donations to Mary's Meals are being accepted and a table with Mary's Meals information and t-shirts will be set up. For anyone unable to attend, donations can be made pre- and post-concert online at www.marysmealsusa.org. The event takes place on Thursday, June 22 from 6-9 p.m. at the Canterbury Hill Winery & Restaurant located at 1707 South Summit Drive, Holts Summit. Admission is free and a limited menu will be available. To reserve a table, call Michelle at 573-291-3335 or email her at: michelle.keller@marysmeals.org.

"This concert is family friendly and offers an evening of great food and drinks and two amazing bands from Nashville! We are so fortunate to return to <u>Canterbury Hill</u> and welcome back Drop Dead Dangerous and Phoenix Mendoza," Keller stated.

Thousands of volunteers and donors worldwide in 18 countries – like the U.S. – support Mary's Meals making these life-changing meals possible for 2.4+ million hungry children in some of the world's poorest countries.

"Mary's Meals as a provider of hope – in the life of one child and in the world more broadly – is more important than ever. And so are each of our actions in support of this mission; no matter how small they might feel to us, they are not small! They are truly enormous in the life of that child," said Mary's Meals Founder and CEO, Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow.

— END —

About Mary's Meals

Now in its 21st year, Mary's Meals is a global movement that sets up school-feeding programs in some of the world's most vulnerable communities, where conflict, poverty and hunger often prevent children from gaining an education. Mary's Meals works with in-country volunteers to provide one daily nutritious meal in a place of learning to attract children into the classroom to receive an education. This simple solution to help end world hunger also enables children to lift themselves from the cycle of hunger and poverty.

Mary's Meals began by feeding 200 children in Malawi in 2002. Today, the organization feeds 2,429,182 hungry children every school day in 5,084 schools across five continents in the following countries: Benin, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Myanmar, Niger, South Sudan, Syria, Thailand, Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Mary's Meals collaborates with the U.N. World Food Program, partners with USAID in Liberia and is part of the global School Meals Coalition, an emerging initiative of governments and partners to drive actions that can urgently re-establish, improve, and scale up food and education systems. For more information about Mary's Meals, visit marysmealsusa.org.

Follow Mary's Meals USA on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter.