

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT: Charles Zukow | Charles Zukow Associates
415-296-0677 | charlesz@charleszukow.com

PROJECT OPEN HAND ANNOUNCES 25TH ANNUAL HAND TO HAND HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

**WORLD-RENOWNED CELEBRITY CHEF CAT CORA TO DELIVER KEYNOTE
ADDRESS; BAY AREA RADIO LEGEND AND SAN FRANCISCO'S GIANTS
ANNOUNCER RENEL BROOKS-MOON TO EMCEE**

**COMMUNITY LEADERS
LINDA GLICK, BARBARA A. GARCIA, GIANTS ENTERPRISES,
AND GILEAD SCIENCES, INC. TO BE HONORED**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2017
FAIRMONT SAN FRANCISCO**

SAN FRANCISCO (November 02, 2017) – **Project Open Hand** is proud to announce the 25th Anniversary of the beloved **Hand to Hand Holiday Luncheon** on **Thursday, December 14 from 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.** at Fairmont San Francisco (950 Mason St.). Proceeds from the luncheon support Project Open Hand and their efforts to serve “meals with love” to critically ill neighbors and seniors. Individual tickets are \$350 and available for purchase online at openhand.org/events or by calling 415-447-2320. Sponsorship levels range from \$5,000 to \$50,000. For more information regarding sponsorship opportunities, contact David Newcomb at dnewcomb@openhand.org or 415-447-2470.

Emceed by Bay Area radio legend and San Francisco Giants announcer **Renel Brooks-Moon**, the Hand to Hand Luncheon will feature a keynote address from **Cat Cora**, the world-renowned first female Iron Chef on Food Network’s “Iron Chef America,” and will honor four community leaders, including **Linda Glick, Barbara A. Garcia, Giants Enterprises, and Gilead Sciences, Inc.**

“We are honored that Chef Cat Cora will be participating in Project Open Hand’s 25th Anniversary Hand to Hand Holiday Luncheon,” said Project Open Hand CEO Mark Ryle. “Known for her exuberance and commitment to healthy living through food, Chef Cora shares our passion to nourish and engage the San Francisco and Oakland community, ensuring that all communities throughout the Bay Area, have access to healthy nutritious meals. Additionally, this year’s honorees exemplify and care deeply about the community, our clients and our mission to assist them to lead stronger, healthier lives and we are proud to pay tribute to them this year.”

The philanthropic luncheon begins at 11 a.m. with appetizers by notable local chef **Rebecca Jean** of Rebecca Jean Catering, light cocktails, specialty drinks as well as a raffle from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Lunch, from 12 – 1:30 p.m., will feature entrées and desserts prepared by award-

winning local chefs, including Project Open Hand's Executive Chef **Adrian Barrow**, Fairmont San Francisco's Executive Chef **Oscar Gonzalez** and The Bread Project's Pastry Chef **Mark Chacon**, as well as a live auction hosted by renowned auctioneer **Abra Annes**. In addition to delivering the keynote address, Chef Cora will also prepare one of her signature dishes, Halibut with Pepitas, Capers and Tomatoes.

"I am thrilled to be delivering the keynote address and cooking at the Hand to Hand Holiday Luncheon. I love Project Open Hand's mission, providing meals with love and helping people lead healthier lives, I'm proud to be a part of such a meaningful event," said Chef Cora.

The luncheon will include a program highlighting Project Open Hand's achievements and culminates with the keynote address and the presentation of the four awards. Other program speakers include Project Open Hand CEO Mark Ryle and a long-time Project Open Hand client.

The Ruth Brinker Visionary Award 2017 will be awarded to long-time Project Open Hand Board Member **Linda Glick; Barbara A. Garcia**, Director of Health, Department of Public Health City and County of San Francisco, will receive the Community Advocate Award 2017; the Most Outstanding Community Partner Award 2017 will be presented to **Giants Enterprises**; and the Most Outstanding Corporate Support Award 2017 will be given to **Gilead Sciences, Inc.**

Luncheon sponsors include: **Marcia and John Goldman; James Hormel & Michael Nguyen; Neil MacPhail; Zephyr Real Estate; Hal Marz; Linda Glick; Semifreddi's**; and **Ghirardelli Chocolate Company**.

For more information on Project Open Hand or the 25th Annual Hand to Hand Holiday Luncheon, visit www.openhand.org.

About the 2017 Honorees

Linda Glick - Ruth Brinker Visionary Award 2017

Project Open Hand Board Member Linda Glick is being honored for her work as a philanthropist, volunteer, and community leader. She has touched countless lives and has made an impact on the Bay Area and beyond. Linda's selfless dedication, generosity, and contribution of time, energy and resources, ensures that the mission of Project Open Hand continues.

Barbara A. Garcia - Community Advocate Award 2017

This inaugural award recognizes Ms. Garcia as a beacon for our clients. In her position as Director of San Francisco Department of Public Health, Barbara has advocated for the critically ill and has shown a passion in finding justice for those in need. She emulates past leaders in our community who refuse to let barriers stop them from looking out for the less fortunate. Barbara Garcia is a true pillar in our community.

Giants Enterprises - Most Outstanding Community Partner Award 2017

For the last 10 plus years, Giants Enterprises/San Francisco Giants, an exemplary community partner, has supported the work of Project Open Hand through contributions of time, voice and dollars.

Gilead Sciences, Inc. – Most Outstanding Corporate Supporter Award 2017

Gilead Sciences, Inc. has pursued in an intentional way of working together to solve complex problems. Gilead Sciences has demonstrated a commitment by investing grants, time and knowledge in support of the Project Open Hand mission.

About Project Open Hand

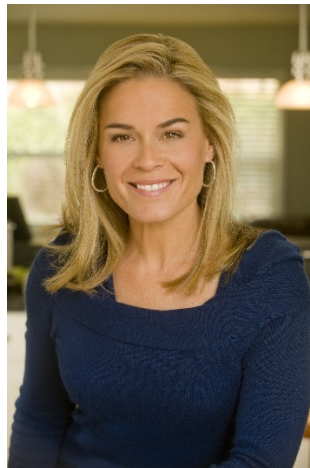
Founded in 1985, Project Open Hand is a nonprofit organization that provides meals with love to critically ill neighbors and seniors. Our food is like medicine, helping clients recover from illness, get stronger, and lead healthier lives.

Every day, we prepare 2,500 nutritious meals and provide 200 bags of healthy groceries to help sustain our clients as they battle serious illnesses, isolation, or the health challenges of aging. We serve San Francisco County and Oakland, engaging more than 125 volunteers every day to nourish our community.

#

TO DOWNLOAD HI-RES IMAGE:

*Select photo (this will open a new browser window),
right click and select "Save Image As"*



Cat Cora

Photo Courtesy of Project Open Hand



Emcee Renel Brooks-Moon
Photo Credit: Pat Johnson Photography



Project Open Hand CEO Mark Ryle
Photo Credit: Ed Carreon



Hand to Hand Luncheon (2013)



Hand to Hand Luncheon (2013)

[Project Open Hand Video](#)



Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)