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National Restaurant Association's Phil Kafarakis Joins Meals On Wheels Association of America Board of Directors

Alexandria, VA, January 15, 2014 – Meals On Wheels Association of America today announced that Phil Kafarakis, Chief Innovation & Member Advancement Officer for the National Restaurant Association, was elected to the Meals On Wheels Association Board of Directors.

"Phil's extensive experience in the food industry enables him to bring a unique and critical perspective to our Board of Directors," said Meals On Wheels Association Board Chair Vinsen Faris. "We are most appreciative to him and the National Restaurant Association for their willingness to contribute his valuable time to volunteer service for Meals On Wheels' benefit."

Kafarakis' record of business achievement extends across multiple channels of food distribution, several product categories and in emerging global markets. Prior to the National Restaurant Association, Kafarakis was Vice President, Food Service for McCormick & Co., where he was responsible for the launch of the McCormick for Chefs marketing platform. His background also includes senior roles with Cargill Incorporated, Aqua-Novus Corporation, Jones Dairy Farm and Kraft Foods Inc.

"Phil is widely known and respected throughout the world of foodservice and business for his innovative thought leadership and ability to grow organizations," added Ellie Hollander, President and CEO of the Meals On Wheels Association of America. "We are excited to parlay his keen insights and knowledge into helping our programs become stronger, so they can nourish more lives."

While the Meals On Wheels Association Board has historically been made up of senior nutrition leaders from programs across the country, a change to its Bylaws in 2013 sought to diversify the leadership to also include experienced individuals from other sectors. Kafarakis is the first to be added as a result.

About National Restaurant Association

Founded in 1919, the National Restaurant Association is the leading business association for the restaurant industry, which comprises 980,000 restaurant and foodservice outlets and a workforce of more than 13 million employees. We represent the industry in Washington, D.C., and advocate on its behalf. We operate the industry's largest trade show ([NRA Show](#) May 17-20, 2014, in Chicago); leading food safety training and certification program ([ServSafe](#)); unique career-building high school program (the NRAEF's [ProStart](#)); as well as the [Kids LiveWell](#) program promoting healthful kids' menu options. For more information, visit Restaurant.org and find us on Twitter [@WeRRestaurants](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

About Meals On Wheels Association of America

The Meals On Wheels Association of America is the only national organization and network dedicated solely to ending senior hunger in America. The Association is the oldest and largest organization composed of and representing local, community-based Senior Nutrition Programs in all 50 states as well as the U.S. territories. More than 5,000 local Meals on Wheels Programs leverage a dedicated army of two million volunteers who day-in and day-out create an efficient and caring way to help America's seniors stay independent, healthy and able to live in their own homes. For more information or to locate a local Meals on Wheels program, visit mowaa.org.