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PRESS RELEASE/MEDIA OPPORTUNITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SCOTTSDALE'S ROKA AKOR SUSHI & ROBATA GRILL HELPS ST. MARY'S FOOD BANK ALLIANCE PROVIDE MORE FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY

*Acclaimed Restaurant Will Donate 20% of Proceeds from Dec. 7th-13th;
and John and Editha Kapoor Charitable Foundation
to Match Donations During Event*

Phoenix, AZ – Named one of the “Top 10 Sushi Spots in the United States” by *Bon Appétit* magazine, Roka Akor Sushi and Robata Grill is a must-visit destination spot among elite Scottsdale restaurants. Not only can diners enjoy all Roka’s incredible menu selections but they can also provide hundreds of meals for the hungry in Arizona.

Roka Akor’s owner John Kapoor will continue his long-time support of St. Mary’s Food Bank Alliance by donating 20 percent of all revenues from his restaurant for one week, beginning Monday, Dec. 7th through Sunday, Dec. 13th. In addition, every donation during that period will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the John and Editha Kapoor Charitable Foundation.

Every dollar donated to St. Mary’s provides seven meals to those in need in our community. With Roka’s donation plus the Foundation’s match, every \$1 of dining during

the week will provide 14 meals at a time when demand at the Food Bank has reached unprecedented levels.

“Roka Akor and the Kapoor Foundation are proud to continue its on-going partnership with St. Mary’s Food Bank Alliance and its mission to feed the hungry of Arizona,” said Mary Gauwitz, the Foundation’s executive director. “We hope that visitors to Roka Akor not only enjoy their dining experience, but recognize that they are helping feed so many people who are in great need at this time. We also encourage those who are able, to donate food, money or volunteer at the Food Bank to help those currently struggling with food insecurity.”

Roka Akor, 7299 N. Scottsdale Road, will provide informational brochures about St. Mary’s Food Bank Alliance. Ninety-six percent of donations to the Food Bank are invested directly back into programs benefiting the community. In addition, Roka will also accept cash donations to the Food Bank during that week.

“With recent news from the USDA that 49 million Americans are living in hunger, and that in Arizona, one out of every five children doesn’t get enough to eat on a daily basis, St. Mary’s is grateful for the incredibly generous support provided by John Kapoor,” said St. Mary’s President and CEO Terry Shannon. “John’s continued support of our efforts to ease the food burden on those hit hardest by unemployment and the Arizona economy is greatly appreciated. We thank him for opening the doors of his outstanding restaurant and for giving others a chance to donate and enjoy a memorable meal in the process.”

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PHOTO/INTERVIEW OP: MEDIA WISHING TO ATTEND TO INTERVIEW TERRY SHANNON, MARY GAUWITZ OR JOHN KAPOOR AT THE RESTAURANT ARE ASKED TO COODINATE TIMES WITH ST. MARY’S COMMUNITY RELATIONS SPECIALIST JERRY BROWN (602-684-0939 OR jjbrown@firstfoodbank.org)

ABOUT THE FOOD BANK: St. Mary’s Food Bank Alliance, the world’s first food bank, is a non-sectarian, nonprofit organization that alleviates hunger by efficiently gathering and distributing food to 534 agencies that serve the hungry. Serving 13 of Arizona’s 15 counties, the organization is a member of Feeding America, the national network of food banks, and is committed to

volunteerism, building community relationships, and improving the quality of life for Arizonans in need. Last year, the Food Bank distributed more than 67 million pounds of food to families and individuals, provided enough food for 300,000 meals every day, and garnered more than 370,000 volunteer service hours. Web site: www.FirstFoodBank.org Phone: 602-242-FOOD.