

What can I say about Chef Dave Siano? He is the most caring, generous, kind-hearted chef I know. As a Sous Chef employed at a property that is known to have the best food in Northwest Indiana and Chicagoland, Chef Dave has his work cut out for him. A family man, he often juggles multiple hours appeasing loyal — and hungry — Horseshoe customers. However *some way, some how*, Chef Dave always finds time to give back to the communities of Northwest Indiana. That’s why I humbly submit this Chairman’s Award nomination for Chef Dave in the category of Community Service.



As a young boy, David Siano could always be found in the kitchen with his mother. Whether it was helping his mom prepare meatloaf or simply licking cake batter from a spoon, the kitchen was his refuge. He decided early on that when he got older, he’d choose a career that involved some aspect of the food industry.

His passion for being a community servant was cultivated when he was hired at Horseshoe several years ago. “We are attempting to be good neighbors and partners in the community as well as letting people know what we stand for . . . a quality establishment with excellent food and legendary guest service,” said Chef Dave.

Each year, Chef Dave represents Horseshoe Casino to help prepare a special feast as part of a “Dine With The Chefs” event, hosted by Meals on Wheels of Northwest Indiana. The fund-raising event, in its second year of existence, was a local effort to help the nonprofit agency finance an expansion of its home offices and kitchens in Crown Point, Ind.

Each month, he donates part of his Wednesday (and any other day he’s called on) to deliver hot meals for Meals on Wheels of Northwest Indiana, a volunteer-based, nonprofit social service agency established in 1977. The agency delivers nutritionally balanced meals to help elderly, ill and disabled persons stay healthy and remain independent. Every day, more than 1,300 clients in Lake and Porter counties are served a hot meal at a minimal price, thanks to the volunteers and staff of Meals on Wheels of Northwest Indiana. Thanks to Chef Dave.

Other organizations that Chef Dave has somehow been able to lend a helping hand to in 2006 include: St. Victor Soup Kitchen, Habitat for Humanity, Hammond Area Career Center, March of Dimes' signature chef's gala, and a toy convention to benefit Christ Hospital Pediatric Oncology in Illinois. One would think Chef Dave had enough on his plate, but he manages to add more . . . especially if it involves helping people. In the summer of 2006, he was selected by Horseshoe General Manager Rick Mazer and Central Division President Anthony Sanfilippo to personally accompany them during a Meals on Wheels truck donation in Indianapolis. The highlight of the donation for attendees at a press conference was that NASCAR racecar driver Robby Gordon was on hand to delivery the first hot meal in his Harrah's-sponsored race vehicle, and none other than Horseshoe's own Chef Dave was Gordon's passenger. Obviously humbled by the experience, it was the way in which Chef Dave served the meal in his Horseshoe chef's uniform that made the most impact, in my opinion. But Dave isn't concerned about accolades, and he's not trying to make a name for himself. He just enjoys being a good Samaritan.

Chef Dave is Horseshoe's community servant and is deserving of a Chairman's Award for his constant support and for standing firm in his belief to do good deeds and support the company's Code of Commitment in the area of community support.