

September 12, 2021

I have had the pleasure of being a partner with Queens Together in this organization's effort to serve the communities in need.

Having worked with many large charities on community initiatives in the past, we at The Pierre Hotel were looking for grass roots level organizations that serves communities directly. One could say this was a result of us re-visiting our community goals & approach.

I got connected to Mr. Jonathan Forgash, the co-founder of QT early this year. We partnered with QT for a food pantry event in February 2021 at the First Baptist Church in Elmhurst, Queens, one of the worst COVID affected neighborhoods in the country.

Our second event was a remarkable one where Chef Michael Mignano of Farine Baking Company, Queens Together & a few volunteer chefs came together to take on a mammoth project. We served family style fresh meals to 400 needy families in NYCHA houses in Queens, a really awesome event clearly representative of the name "Queens Together".

Personally, I truly appreciate the model of work QT does by supporting & promoting restaurants who are desperate in this difficult time while bridging the gap of food insecurity to needy Queens families.

We, The Pierre Hotel may not be a Queens business, but a large percentage of our team are connected to Queens in many ways and are excited to participate in these initiatives.

I look forward to a long partnership with this organization & wish them the best.

Best regards

Ashfer Biju

Executive Chef / Director Food & Beverage