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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### “Having food on the table made everything else seem possible”

14<sup>th</sup> Annual [Blue Jeans Ball](#) Gala Will Fund Life Changing Meals for Thousands of Washington Area Neighbors

Meet Lisa Messerschmidt, whose life was changed by the Blue Jeans Ball. With a parent who needed care and no sibling to rely on for help, she had to leave work and rely on her husband’s salary alone. When he then lost his job due to the government shutdown, they couldn’t pay their bills, had their car repossessed, and their credit crashed.

Lisa spent the next couple of years at the mercy of others, at times living without heat, running water, medical care, or, very often, food. Enter her neighborhood nonprofit, supplied with food by the Capital Area Food Bank. They provided her family with the training and resources needed to get back on their feet – starting with vegetables, fruit and other ingredients to cook with. In Lisa’s words, “having food on the table made everything else seem possible.” The Capital Area Food Bank helped to turn crisis into stability for her family, and by attending this year’s [Blue Jeans Ball](#), you can do the same for others.

*Each ticket to the [Blue Jeans Ball](#) provides 500 life-changing meals for people in need in our area. Today, Lisa works for the food bank, helping distribute food made possible by the Blue Jeans Ball.*

**When:** **Sunday, April 23, 2017**

5 pm: VIP reception

6 pm: Tastings, cocktails and silent auction

8 pm: Program & live auction

**Where:** **Marriott Marquis Hotel**

901 Massachusetts Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20001

Hotel valet parking available for a fee

**Just Announced:**

- Washington Redskins Foundation joins this year’s effort to end childhood hunger
- Made-to-order cocktails from Mixology Chairs Gina Chersevani (Buffalo & Bergen) & Eddie Kim (Bar Dupont)
- 40+ savory and sweet tasting stations from Oyamel, The Palm, Ripple, Occidental and more.

**How:** Ticket and sponsorship details available at [capitalareafoodbank.org/blue-jeans-ball/](http://capitalareafoodbank.org/blue-jeans-ball/)

- Sponsorships are available to individuals or organizations at various levels
- As always, guests arrive in their most fashionable denim and taste to their hearts’ content!

**Why:** The Capital Area Food Bank is the largest organization in the Washington metro area working to solve hunger and its companion problems: chronic undernutrition, heart disease and obesity. By partnering with nearly 450 community organizations in DC, Maryland and Virginia, as well as delivering food directly in hard to reach areas, the CAFB is helping 540,000 people each year get access to good, healthy food. That’s 12 percent of our region’s mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, sisters, brothers, and grandparents. Visit: [capitalareafoodbank.org](http://capitalareafoodbank.org), [facebook.com/CapitalAreaFoodBank](https://facebook.com/CapitalAreaFoodBank), and Twitter at [@foodbankmetrodc](https://twitter.com/foodbankmetrodc).