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For immediate release

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Thanks San Diego! Father Joe's Villages to reach 20 MILLION MEAL Mark this Thanksgiving

In 1982 Father Joe Carroll began providing meals to San Diego's neighbors in need every single day of the year. Today, the mission of Father Joe's Villages continues. Families with children, veterans, senior citizens, and single men and women down on their luck turn to St. Vincent de Paul Village and partner agencies of Father Joe's Villages for a meal and encouragement to regain their confidence and self sufficiency. San Diego's good hearted community helps provide nutritious meals and life saving services for the poor. Thanks for keeping the good work going ---the 20 MILLIONTH MEAL will be served this Thanksgiving. How can you help? Go to www.thanksgivingrun.org to sign up for the annual walk/ run in Balboa Park on Thanksgiving Day or make a contribution to ensure that no one is hungry this Thanksgiving or on any day of the year.

About the Thanksgiving 5K:

- Father Joe's Villages Thanksgiving Day 5K raises the funds necessary for St. Vincent de Paul Village and partner agencies to continue to prepare up to 1.7 MILLION wholesome nutritious meals annually to our neighbors in need.
- Since 1982 St. Vincent de Paul Village and partner agencies have prepared over 19 MILLION meals for our neighbors in need!
- This community fundraising event which began with 1,800 people in 2002 and has grown to 10,000+.
- In 9 years (since 2002), the Thanksgiving Day 5K has raised approximately \$3 Million
- Since 2002, participants have joined us from all 50 US states as well as Canada, Mexico, Australia, the United Kingdom, Puerto Rico, Samoa and Cambodia.

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Father Joe's Villages® is a San Diego-based nonprofit that helps homeless neighbors in need regain their lives through a unique life-changing program that is nationally recognized and modeled for its effectiveness. Our groundbreaking approach to rehabilitation, known as the "University of the Human Spirit," addresses the underlying causes of homelessness to break the cycle and help thousands of people become responsible, self-sufficient, productive citizens and pass their newfound independence and life skills on to their children and families. When we help one person, we help generations of families and communities.