



Torrance Marriott South Bay  
3635 Fashion Way  
Torrance, California 90503 USA  
1-310-316-3636

**PRESS CONTACT:**  
Amy Peterson  
1-949-471-8486  
[Amy.Peterson@marriott.com](mailto:Amy.Peterson@marriott.com)

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### **Employees of Torrance Marriott South Bay serve homeless over holidays**

*Redondo Beach hotel's Spirit of Serving kicks in as employees, senior management help less fortunate*

**Torrance, CA** – Take 512 pounds of turkey, add 110 pounds of green beans, 200 pounds of potatoes, 300 pounds of salad and 40 pounds of cranberries to create one giant feast at a Redondo Beach hotel.

The [Torrance Marriott South Bay Hotel](#) served nearly 1,200 pounds of food and received tons more support at the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Caring Is Sharing post-Christmas meal for the homeless held Dec. 26, 2012, in the South Bay hotel's main ballroom. The Torrance, CA, hotel partnered with American Honda and the Salvation Army to put on one of the largest charity gatherings in the area over the holidays.

Nearly 1,000 homeless men, women and children from all walks of life were served partly by employees of the hotel in Torrance – along with their family members. Each participated as part of Marriott's Spirit to Serve initiative. American Honda purchased the food at cost, plus labor, from the Torrance Marriott South Bay Hotel. The Torrance hotel dedicated its space and kitchen staff for the event as well as other employees and senior management team members who helped dish out meals and flash caring smiles. Holiday singers added to the ambiance of the day.

"We are very proud of our volunteerism efforts in offering the less fortunate a hot meal at such an important time of year," said Pam Ryan, general manager of the Torrance, California, hotel. "I have been involved in the event for the last five years along with my immediate family, and we get such great pleasure in knowing that we are making such a positive difference in a community that has given so much to us."

The Spirit to Serve program blends corporate financial contributions with in-kind giving and the volunteer service of more than 150,000 Marriott employees to create a business culture that has become recognized around the world.

"As a good corporate citizen, Marriott is strengthening our communities throughout the world – today and for tomorrow," Marriott Chairman and CEO J.W. "Bill" Marriott Jr. notes in an annual report highlighting efforts such as the event in Torrance.

#### **About the Torrance Marriott South Bay**

The Torrance Marriott South Bay is minutes from the scenic Pacific Coast Highway, miles of pristine beaches, the fifth largest mall in the United States and Home Depot Center. The hotel features 476 rooms and 11 suites on 17 floors along with 20 meeting rooms with 31,500 square feet of flexible space, three concierge levels, a wine bar and lounge, American restaurant, Starbucks coffee house, state-of-the-art fitness center and indoor/outdoor pool. For information, visit [www.marriott.com/LAXTR](http://www.marriott.com/LAXTR).

