

NEWS RELEASE



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ARAMARK Employees to Revitalize One of Seattle's Oldest Social Service Organizations

*Volunteers will invigorate Atlantic Street Center's Rainier Beach Family Center on
October 16; and spearheads community book drive*

SEATTLE, WASH., OCTOBER 3, 2008 – ARAMARK, a global leader in professional services, today announced it will support Atlantic Street Center, one of Seattle's premier non-profit organizations providing critical social service programs and services to low-income families, as part of *ARAMARK Building Community*, a company-wide initiative to enhance community centers in more than 30 cities over the next year.

On **Thurs., October 16**, more than 125 ARAMARK employee volunteers in the Seattle and greater Pacific Northwest area will participate in a day of service, refurbishing Atlantic Street Center's Rainier Beach Family Center at 8825 Rainier Avenue South. As part of the community service day, ARAMARK volunteers will create a new family reading and resource room at the Center by painting walls and inspirational murals, and building storage units, display boards and book shelves. Volunteers will also host a children's book drive to fill the new room with books and resource materials. The community is invited to join ARAMARK employees in donating new books for children and youth ages 0-18 (*drop off locations are outlined below*).

"Atlantic Street Center, as an anchor community institution, has been relied upon by thousands of families in Seattle's Rainier Valley since 1910," said Edith C. Elion, executive director of Atlantic Street Center. "This partnership with ARAMARK allows us to do what we do best, which is focus on our programming. Their support will help us to make a lasting impact on the children and families that we serve."

In addition to creating the community resource room, ARAMARK volunteers, in partnership with City Year Seattle, a group dedicated to engaging young people in full-time community service and ARAMARK's volunteerism partner, will participate in a variety of hands-on enhancement projects around the Rainier Beach Family Center including building new bookcases for the kids' room and storage spaces for the teens' room, creating vibrant murals throughout the Center, painting hallways and rooms, and landscaping the outside of the Center.

"At ARAMARK, we have a legacy of putting community needs first. Our corporate resources, combined with our passion for volunteerism, allow us to positively impact social issues in a powerful way, and in a manner that is truly relevant to our business strengths, culture and the community," said Bruce Fears, President, ARAMARK Parks and Destinations and *ARAMARK Building Community* sponsor (Seattle, Wash.). "It's about linking our expertise, resources and time to help the communities in which we live and work."

Book drive drop off locations include:

- Atlantic Street Center's Rainier Beach Family Center, 8825 Rainier Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98118 – Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- Atlantic Street Center's Main Office, 2103 South Atlantic Street, Seattle, WA 98144 – Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- Atlantic Street Center's New Holly Youth and Family Center, 7050-32nd Avenue S., Seattle, WA 98118 – Monday through Friday between 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- Washington State Convention and Trade Center, 800 Convention Place, Seattle, WA 98101 – Concierge Desk, Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Through *ARAMARK Building Community*, volunteers will use their expertise to help youth and adults develop critical, employable work skills and connect them to career opportunities; support families with nutrition and wellness education; provide basic needs such as food and clothing; and help identified partners run cleaner, safer and more efficient facilities to enhance and strengthen the Center's programs on an ongoing basis.

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About the Atlantic Street Center

The Atlantic Street Center was founded in 1910 as a settlement house to support the immigrant population relocating to Seattle's Rainier Valley. Today, Atlantic Street is one of Seattle's premier non-profit organizations serving youth and families in Seattle's central and southeast neighborhoods. Each year, the organization provides academic assistance, early literacy, youth development, parent education and support, leadership development, mental health counseling and other critical social service programs and services to low-income families. To learn more about the organization, please visit www.atlanticstreet.org.

About ARAMARK Building Community

ARAMARK Building Community enriches the lives of families in need by supporting local community centers to help people of all generations learn, earn and thrive. ARAMARK recognizes the important role community centers play in addressing the comprehensive needs of individuals and families and is providing a range of resources including grants, volunteers and in-kind contributions. For more information about *ARAMARK Building Community*, log onto www.aramark.com.

About ARAMARK

ARAMARK is a leader in professional services, providing award-winning food services, facilities management, and uniform and career apparel to health care institutions, universities and school districts, stadiums and arenas, and businesses around the world. In FORTUNE magazine's 2008 list of "America's Most Admired Companies," ARAMARK was ranked number one in its industry, consistently ranking since 1998 as one of the top three most admired companies in its industry as evaluated by peers and analysts. ARAMARK also ranked first in its industry in the 2007 FORTUNE 500 survey. ARAMARK seeks to responsibly address issues that matter to its clients, customers, employees and communities by focusing on employee advocacy, environmental stewardship, health and wellness, and community involvement. Headquartered in Philadelphia, ARAMARK has approximately 250,000 employees serving clients in 19 countries. Learn more at the company's Web site, www.aramark.com.

