

# COMING SOON



  
**IRON  
GATE**

WE ARE ALL GUESTS ON THIS EARTH  
AND GUESTS TREAT ONE ANOTHER WITH  
**COURTESY,  
KINDNESS,  
AND RESPECT**

**INSIDE**  

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*the*  

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**GATE**



**FALL 2018**

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Keenan Barnard  
Gene Buzzard  
Rev. John C. Powers

# Dear Friends of Iron Gate —

Someone pinch me - it really happened! Iron Gate officially broke ground on August 2nd! Our new building is under construction. Forty years ago, a need was met by a simple act of kindness. It grew and grew, and in 2017 we served 210,000 meals, assisted 12,000 families with groceries and distributed 14,000 kids packs. Iron Gate has been nurtured by Father McKee and Trinity Episcopal Church, countless volunteers, dedicated staff, immediate past director Connie Cronley, donors who believed and board members who persevered. A special thank you on the occasion of our ground breaking to those who are making the building a reality: The Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation, the J.E. and L.E. Mabee Foundation, Ruth Nelson, the Oxley Foundation, George Kaiser Family Foundation, Mary K. Chapman Foundation, Hille Foundation, The Bezalel Fund at Vanguard Charitable, a DAF of the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, Herman Kaiser Foundation, The Jackson Family Foundation, E.L. and Thelma Gaylord Foundation and Tom and Betty Rains.

The construction committee is monitoring the building progress and we should be in the new facility during summer 2019. The new building will hold new opportunities for the staff and our guests. We are learning about best practices from other food pantries and soup kitchens both regionally and nationally. We are looking forward to serving our guests in the best way possible; always with kindness, courtesy and respect.

It is almost time for everyone's favorite event, the 12th annual Cooking for a Cause! This year's event will be held Thursday, October 11th at Metro Appliances. If you have never been, I invite you to attend. It is a fun-filled evening with 12 of Tulsa's premier chefs creating a wonderful dinner for you to sample at 12 different stations each paired with wine or beer. Even better, the proceeds from this evening support the operation costs and provide meals for our guests. I hope to see you there.

Thank you to everyone who has sustained Iron Gate for the past 40 years. On behalf of all the guests we feed I would like to thank you. What we do every day - makes a difference every day.



With gratitude,

**Carrie Vesely Henderson, CFRE**

Executive Director

918-359-9017

[chenderson@irongatetulsa.org](mailto:chenderson@irongatetulsa.org)



Please join TulsaPeople  
and Iron Gate for our  
12TH ANNUAL

# cooking FOR A cause

OCTOBER 11, 2018

Metro Appliances & More • 53rd & Mingo

SPECIAL THANKS TO

FOUNDING EVENT SPONSOR



TulsaPeople

A dozen chefs, a dozen dishes, dozens of ways to feed Tulsa's hungry.

Ben Alexander, *The Tavern*

Joel Bein, *Oklahoma Rub Food Truck*

Candace Conley, *The Girl Can Cook*

Elizabeth Howe, *US Foods*

Miranda Kaiser, *Laffa Medi-Eastern  
Restaurant & Bar*

Jeff Marlow, *Community Food  
Bank of Eastern Oklahoma*

Michael Minden,  
*Michael V's Restaurant*

Jonathan Moosmiller,  
*Southern Hills Country Club*

Gene Leiterman,

*OSUIT School of Culinary Arts*

Shannon Smith, *Beads and Basil*

Kirk Swaby, *The Gathering Place*

Cameron Werry, *Taste of the Wild/  
Tulsa Zoo*

Event Attire: Business

Individual Tickets \$125 per person,  
patron opportunities are available

Chef awards, wine pull, auction and more



501 S. Cincinnati Ave. • 918.359.9038

asims@irongatetulsa.org

Iron Gate is a downtown soup kitchen and grocery  
pantry that feeds the hungry of Tulsa every day.

To purchase tickets or learn more, visit [irongatetulsa.org/cookingforacause](http://irongatetulsa.org/cookingforacause)



Iron Gate Executive Director Carrie Vesely Henderson, Jason Owen, Feed the City: Tulsa Organizer, Iron Gate's Development Director, Ashli Sims, and Feed the City Tulsa Organizer: Ty Griffin

## FEEDING THE CITY: Tango Tab & Iron Gate

The first Saturday of every month, a Tulsa restaurant is transformed into the frontline on the fight against hunger. An army of volunteers descends on Blue Rose Café, armed with bags of bread and slices of sandwich meat. In just a couple of hours, they assemble nearly 1,000 sandwiches and deliver them to the iron gates.

It's all part of Tango Tab's Feed the City. Tango Tab is a restaurant app that combines dining out with the fight against hunger. Tulsa's first Feed the City was a pop-up event hosted by Tango Tab's Director of Social Change, Nick Marino in April of 2017. But it kept going because of Saundra Owen. She attended Marino's presentation at a social media conference in Tulsa and joined the Feed the City pop-up event the next day. They made more than 300 sandwiches in less than two hours that first day and distributed them to Iron Gate. Saundra Owen was inspired to do more. She recruited her husband, Jason, and their friend, Ty Griffin, to lead the team in Tulsa to keep feeding the city every month. Thanks to the Blue Rose Café, which opens its doors to fight hunger before it opens for lunch, and the dozens of volunteers who not only donate their time on a Saturday morning, but also all of the sandwich supplies, the Feed the City effort has continued to grow. They have made more than 21,000 sandwiches and snacks packs for Iron Gate guests, since the effort started a year ago.

Saundra and Jason Owen are so committed to the project they still lead it even though they don't live in Tulsa anymore. Their family drives to Tulsa from Dallas every month to keep up the fight against hunger. The event may last for just a few hours every month, but it makes a huge impact on Iron Gate guests.

Feed the City • 1st Saturday of the Month  
Blue Rose Café (19th & Riverside) • 9am-11am  
Bring supplies to make sandwiches and make an impact  
in the Tulsa community.  
[www.tangotab.com/feed-the-city](http://www.tangotab.com/feed-the-city)

## CELEBRATE IRON GATE

This summer, Iron Gate celebrated its 40th birthday with 40 days of activities. Iron Gate kicked off the festivities with a birthday party in the dining room. A youth group from **Zion Lutheran Church** in Minnesota volunteered at Iron Gate, serving the meal, sorting sandwiches, and helping decorate for our birthday party. They blew up more than 200 balloons to make the dining room and courtyard festive. Iron Gate guests were treated to biscuits and gravy as well as pulled pork sandwiches, baked beans, chips, apple crisp and Blue Bell ice cream. The celebration continued with Dine Out for Iron Gate. Several local restaurants hosted Iron Gate on Mondays and Wednesdays in July. The restaurants donated a percentage of the nights' profits to feeding Tulsa's hungry and homeless (see back for participating restaurants). Almost one hundred people turned out for Faces of Iron Gate hosted by **Adam Murphy's Studio 75**. The 7th Annual Faces of Iron Gate campaign featured larger than life black and white portraits taken by Murphy. "When I received an email in the beginning of 2017, I honestly did not know too much about Iron Gate," Murphy said.



7th Annual Faces of Iron Gate Show  
at Adam Murphy's Studio 75 in Tulsa, OK.

"At the time I was lending my services to another organization which was coming to an end and I was actually thinking about taking a year off from volunteering to focus on some side projects that had been awaiting my attention. However, after learning more about Iron Gate's mission and the mindset of how they approached those they welcome through the gate, I was hooked. Also the carte blanche approach was very appealing! The trust I was given to portray those Iron Gate guests was not lost on me or the serious nature of a deeply personal experience it would provide with each subject I spent time with. The opportunity to give my time on a repetitive timeline instead of a one off vision of what Iron Gate is provided a deeper experience for me and in turn the depth of the portraits I was creating." **Kendra Scott** also joined our summer of celebrations with a jewelry party. For every piece sold, they donated 20% to Iron Gate. The party raised enough money to provide 180 kids' packs for Iron Gate's youngest guests. Iron Gate was born in the courtyard of Trinity Episcopal Church in 1978. Since then, Iron Gate has served hundreds of thousands of meals to those in need. Thank you to everyone who helped us celebrate this important legacy this summer.



**POWER OF SOCIAL MEDIA** At the beginning of the summer, Iron Gate's kids' packs shelves were looking pretty sad. We snapped a shot of our bare shelf, posted it to our Facebook page, and dozens were inspired to mobilize. The post reached more than 6,400 people on Facebook and was shared 71 times. We had about nine families, friend groups, and businesses respond to the post, including Tiger Natural Gas. Tiger employees donated more than \$1,100 in granola bars, applesauce, juices, milks and other snack foods. They also donated 600 reusable bags for our grocery pantry guests. Sharing a single post can feed many here at Iron Gate.

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**BIG HEARTS LITTLE HANDS** On a hot day in July, instead of hitting the pool or a splash pad, nearly 40 young people were braving the Oklahoma heat to do good. The kids from Big Hearts Little Hands Learning Center collected hundreds of granola bars, bottles of water, tubes of toothpaste and other toiletries. They set up an assembly line outside of Iron Gate and made hundreds of sandwiches for our Iron Gate guests. All items were donated by these compassionate elementary students.

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**A NEW PARTNERSHIP, A NEW LEAF** Twice a month, A New Leaf brings clients to serve in our pantry. A New Leaf provides life skills, marketable job training through horticultural therapy, job placement and residential services to individuals with development disabilities. Helping our guests choose the best produce for their family has become a job favorite for our New Leaf volunteers.

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**FLEMING'S DINNER FOR A CAUSE** We had a great time at our 3rd Annual Fleming's Dinner for a Cause and we hope you did also. We would like to extend a special thanks to Gene Mozingo and Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar, as well as, J.B. Jarboe, Susanne Pereira, and Jarboe Wholesale and Select Wine & Spirits for providing the food and the wine for our incredible five-course meal.

Because of their donation, most of the ticket price goes directly to Iron Gate (we provided gratuity to the incredible Fleming's wait staff who took care of us).

Thanks to you, we will be able to provide 33,000 meals to Iron Gate guests. We couldn't do this work without your generosity and support. Thank you for always being there for Iron Gate. Hope to see you next year!



Iron Gate's Board of Directors break ground on new location. Pictured: Keenan Barnard, Mary Ann Hille, Susan Buck, Mindy Stephens, Rev. John C. Powers, Shane Saunders, Mike Moore, Carrie Vesely Henderson, Tom Maxwell, Paige Shelton, Lindsey Bristow, Robert Curfman, and Josh Roby.

# IRON GATE BREAKS GROUND

After a three-year search for a new location, Iron Gate breaks ground on its new home in Downtown Tulsa. Nearly one hundred people gather at 501 West Archer to celebrate the occasion.

“While the road to this location was long, winding, and full of bumps we always knew this day would come and we never lost faith,” said Shane Saunders, Iron Gate’s Board Chair. “Our belief in the generosity of Tulsans and our commitment to serving our guests with dignity were the guide-posts that made this day possible. In a few short months a new building will rise from the ground where we are standing. More than a building, Iron Gate’s new home will be a welcoming place for our guests, a source of pride for Tulsa, and the envy of other cities.”

Iron Gate is Tulsa’s largest stand-alone soup kitchen and grocery pantry. It serves a community meal every day and offers a grocery pantry three times a week. The organization served almost 210,000 meals last year.

Iron Gate signed a 99-year lease with Tulsa County in April for the 1.77 acre-lot at the intersection of West Archer and North Frisco. Iron Gate unveiled new drawings for its 19,000 square foot facility, which features a covered patio along with the organization’s signature iron gates.

“We wanted a design that really reflected who we are as an organization,” said Carrie Vesely Henderson, Iron Gate’s Executive Director. “It was important to our board and staff that we treat our guests with dignity, which is why we included a covered patio where our guests can gather out of the elements.”

The six-million-dollar project will double the organization’s capacity. Iron Gate is currently located in the basement of Trinity Episcopal Church. The new dining room will include seating for 237, with an additional 60 seats in the covered patio. The new building will also dramatically increase the organization’s cool and dry storage, allowing them to purchase more food in bulk. The new facility will also include a dedicated grocery pantry. Currently, Iron Gate’s dining room doubles as a grocery pantry three times a week.

Partner agencies, Iron Gate supporters, and city and county leaders were on hand for the groundbreaking ceremony. Iron Gate contracted with GH2 architects, Wallace Engineering, and Flintco for the design and construction of the new building.



Nearly 100 people including leaders from the city and county, partner agencies, Iron Gate donors and supporters, and Iron Gate guests gathered for the groundbreaking ceremony.



Tulsa County Commissioner Karen Keith, who was instrumental in negotiating with the Iron Gate board to lease the property, said, "This new Iron Gate will be an even better haven of hope with additional services that will inspire and give a hand up to those in need."



Iron Gate's new building features a dining room with seating for 237, nearly doubling its capacity.



Iron Gate on Archer will feature a covered patio with almost 4,000 square feet of space, including seating for 60.



Iron Gate  
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Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103

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# THANK YOU TO DINE OUT RESTAURANTS

Iron Gate would like to thank all of the following restaurants who helped us celebrate our birthday in July. Thank you for helping us feed the hungry and homeless of Tulsa.

