



NEWS

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Contact: Peyton Sadler

866.571.3449

Peyton@inklinkmarketing.com

Church's Chicken® Feeds Thousands in Storm-Stricken Texas More than 6,000 Pieces of Fried Chicken Served at "Pay What You Can" Day on Thursday, 8/31

Atlanta, GA – September 1, 2017— There was a line out the door yesterday in Beeville, TX when the local [Church's Chicken®](#) opened for "Pay What You Can" Day. The event was organized with the aim of providing access to hot, wholesome meals to those impacted by hurricane and flooding conditions in the southeast Texas area. Over 6,000 pieces of chicken were served – the equivalent of 2,200 meals – for a restaurant that typically serves about 250 meals during a morning shift under regular circumstances.

"Some people told us *Church's* was the first hot meal they'd had in nine days – since the very start of storm conditions," said [Joe Christina](#), Chief Executive Officer for *Church's*. Christina was on hand in Beeville to support the restaurant team and to coordinate with local officials for ongoing community relief and rebuilding efforts. "People are living in shelters and motels with no idea of when, or even if, they'll return home," he continued. "For them, this meal was a return to normalcy, if only for a brief moment, and a chance to restore hope for the days ahead."

The "Pay What You Can" event also functioned as a fundraiser for the American Red Cross and their ongoing recovery efforts. In all, the restaurant raised \$1,750 – which *Church's* intends to contribute another \$3250 for a total \$5,000 donation to the American Red Cross. "The outpouring of community support was incredible," Christina added. "Some were giving their very last dollar, others were giving all they had in spite of losing their home, businesses, and more. The power of community is doing so much good here – and it's needed now more than ever. And, our crew worked tirelessly to work together with the community to make it happen."

Going Beyond Chicken

In addition to making sure people are fed and have safe places to stay, *Church's* is working with police, the mayor, and city council members in Beeville to coordinate additional relief efforts for the greater Corpus Christi area. Many towns just outside Beeville have yet to recover from storm damage and flooding – leaving local businesses closed and residents with fewer resources. One of the more pressing challenges currently facing the area is a lack of school supplies for students that had to evacuate or who suffered losses.

"We're very pleased to be able to remedy this issue through our *Church's Foundation* – which already has a strong focus on education," explained Christina. "Local officials are working to let us know what students need to return to the classroom and we stand ready to support them."

Cajun Operating Company d/b/a Church's Chicken and Texas Chicken

www.churchs.com

Restaurant Support Center: 980 Hammond Drive, Suite 1100 Atlanta, GA 30328 (770) 350-3800

About **Church's Chicken**®

Founded in San Antonio, TX in 1952 by George W. Church, *Church's Chicken*® is one of the largest quick service restaurant chicken chains in the world. *Church's*® specializes in Original and Spicy Chicken freshly prepared throughout the day in small batches that are hand-battered and double-breaded, *Tender Strips*®, sandwiches, honey-butter biscuits made from scratch and freshly baked, and classic, home-style sides all for a great value. *Church's*® (along with its sister brand *Texas Chicken*® outside the Americas) has more than 1,600 locations in 27 countries and international territories and system-wide sales of more than \$1 billion. For more information, visit www.churchs.com. Follow *Church's*® on Facebook at www.facebook.com/churchschicken and Twitter at www.twitter.com/churchschicken.

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