

# Global Gazette

*The latest news, updates, and announcements*

## *In This Issue*

### Barriers to Healthcare Access

### Visiting Vigo Alessi

### Small Plates Big Thanks

### Quote of the Month:

*“When a defining moment comes along, you can do one of two things. Define the moment, or let the moment define you.”*

—Roy McAvoy



## October: Understanding Barriers to Healthcare Access

According to the Health Resources and Services Administration, over 23 million people in America live in areas with a shortage of primary care health professionals. In 2022 over 27 million Americans did not have health insurance. In the US, healthcare accessibility faces challenges due to rising costs and inflation, impacting consumers' financial well-being. To address this issue, Global has continued its ongoing support for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. This organization is dedicated to advancing research and treatment for pediatric catastrophic diseases, with a mission to provide treatment to every child, regardless of their background or financial means. St. Jude's impact is profound, as it covers all treatment costs and essential expenses, including travel, housing, and food, ensuring that children can access life-saving treatments with their families. The hospital offers translation services, psychosocial support for caregivers, and an onsite school for patients, making it a beacon of hope and care for children and their families in need. Global's donation helps fund red blood cell transfusions for 4 children undergoing treatment, join us in making a difference by donating to St. Jude.

# Vigo Alessi Visit



Cindy Munoz has been transitioning into her new role as East Coast Territory Sales Manager with a visit to Florida to connect with our retailer and vendor partners. On this trip, Cindy met with Karina Ramirez, Sr. Director of Publix at KeHE. This visit allows Cindy to continue strengthening Global's relationship with the premier quality food retailer of the southeast region and gain information about key market insights that will translate to the work she does with our vendor partners.

While in Florida, Cindy also seized the opportunity to meet with Dino Trafficante from one of our newest vendor partners based out of Tampa, Vigo Alessi. Dino hosted Cindy on an immersive tour that provided her with a comprehensive insight into the inner workings of Vigo Alessi, offering a behind-the-scenes view of how their extensive product range is meticulously crafted using only the finest ingredients and processes. This visit proved to be a remarkable opportunity for Cindy to connect with some of the key individuals who have played an instrumental role in elevating Vigo Alessi from its humble beginnings to its current stature as a multi-million dollar corporation with a notable presence in both national and international markets.

Cindy's experience will allow her to connect with retailers on a more profound level while presenting this brand. She is uniquely positioned to present their products in a manner that goes beyond a mere sales pitch. Instead, she brings forth a passion that stems from first-hand experiences and a personal connection with the brand. This personalized approach enhances the way Global introduces these exceptional offerings to our retail partners, forging stronger, more meaningful relationships that benefit all involved.

## Small Plates Big Thanks

In a heartwarming event, two of our dedicated team members, Alexis, our CSR Manager, and Nathiely, Marketing Director, had the privilege of attending "Small Plates and Big Thanks" hosted by the Northern Illinois Food Bank (NIFB) at Emilio's Tapas. The evening was an incredible opportunity for our team to connect with this remarkable organization, celebrate their exceptional generosity, and become part of their tight-knit community dedicated to alleviating food insecurity. Amidst the warmth and camaraderie of the event, Alexis and Nathiely had the pleasure of mingling with long-time donors and volunteers who have been an integral part of NIFB's mission for years.

NIFB's impact over the past year was nothing short of astounding. They concluded their summer initiative, "Meals on the Move," having provided over 5,000 free lunches to children in Aurora and distributed a staggering 14,300 pounds of fresh produce. Their network now reaches 450,000 neighbors on a monthly basis through a vast network of 900 outlets spanning 13 counties in Northern Illinois. NIFB shared how they are continually innovating to enhance access to food, as evidenced by their groundbreaking CRM tool. This tool simplifies the process of finding the nearest food partner, providing users with a map view of all food pantries, mobile markets, and soup kitchens. Users can easily filter by distance and operating hours, and the database contains valuable details about each location, including what they offer and contact information.

What made the evening truly special was hearing one of the previous board members share the incredible story of how NIFB came into existence. He explained the food bank's humble beginnings and the remarkable journey he has witnessed firsthand over the years. The struggles faced by the food bank, while persevering to serve the community, left everyone in awe of their unwavering dedication. The event not only illuminated the incredible work of NIFB but also reinforced the sense of community and compassion that defines this exceptional organization. Global is truly honored to be a part of this meaningful partnership, and we look forward to continuing our support for NIFB's mission of nourishing our neighbors and creating a brighter, more food-secure future for all.

