

Green Ribbon Initiatives COMMUNITY PARTNER AWARD

The Community Partner Award is given to an organization which demonstrates significant investment in their community by jointly sponsoring events and activities which *build community together* through volunteerism, support and public encouragement.

Andiamo Restaurant, Ramon Ruiz (owner) & Tommy Krouse (manager)

"Community is what it is all about," said Ramon Ruiz in response to the question about why they invest in community groups and activities. "By supporting local groups, people become more aware of Andiamo. It is really very effective advertising and less expensive than giving the money to the big companies to market the restaurant."

By describing the dual motivation to invest in neighborhood groups and companies, Ramon revealed his deep commitment to this community. In the conversation it was clear that Ramon (owner and chief chef) has a "big heart" for and loves the community.

Some groups that they support or have partnered with at one level or another:

Second Harvest Heartland	The Open Door annual ZEST event
The Eagan Foundation	American Heart Association
Cigars and Baseball (3 or 4 years)	Eagan Fire Department
Painting groups	Eagan Athletic Booster Clubs
Two local home associations	ReJuuv
EcoLabs	Summit Orthopedics
Church meetings/ Bible studies	Silent auctions and fundraisers

Some retirement homes utilize the space for lunches and community activities.

Community sports groups: softball, soccer, hockey, football, baseball, band.

Ramon estimated that 70% of their support goes to the middle school and high schools including: Eagan HS, Eastview HS and Burnsville HS.

Bald Man Brewing

Andiamo has partnered with Bald Man Brewing in a variety of ways including mutually supporting the work of The Eagan Foundation as well as providing product for each other's business: beer for Andiamo, food for Bald Man customers.

Creative partnerships such as these is part of the fabric of community supported by businesses.

More than once families have come to Andiamo from a recipient group sharing their appreciation for the support from Andiamo.

The very stable staff at Andiamo knows many regular customers by name providing that sense of community as people return for food and community.

Andiamo is a precious asset for the community of Eagan in the creation and support of community and in **building community together.**

Andiamo Restaurant is located at 1629 Lena Court #100, Eagan, MN 55122

Green Ribbon Initiatives of Eagan is proud to recognize and celebrate Andiamo Restaurant for its significant contributions to building the community in Eagan together with this Community Partner Award.