

PRESS RELEASE:

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OBÉLIX AND EL CHE PARTNER TO HOST THE FIFTH ANNUAL “PAUSING FOR THE CAUSE” SUICIDE PREVENTION DINNER

The two award-winning teams will join together at Obélix for a collaborative dinner on September 17th to benefit Vibrant Emotional Health

Chicago, IL (August 29, 2023) – Next month, Obélix will host the fifth annual ‘Pausing For The Cause’ collaboration dinner with the El Che Steakhouse & Bar to benefit [Vibrant Emotional Health \(Vibrant\)](#) on Sunday, September 17th. Chef John Manion of El Che and Chef Oliver Poilevey of Obélix will come together in the Obélix kitchen to create a special family-style dinner. All proceeds raised during the evening will go directly to Vibrant’s life-saving programs for suicide prevention initiatives.

“Addressing mental health is an ongoing commitment, and I am incredibly grateful for partners like Event Planner Rebecca Friedlander, Chef Oliver Poilevey, and Chef John Manion. Their commitment to suicide prevention and support of Vibrant Emotional Health allows us to continue to do our work and provide 24/7 emotional support when, where, and how people need it, said Kimberly Williams, President and CEO at Vibrant Emotional Health.

The Obélix and El Che teams are honored to work together this year to raise money and awareness for this incredible cause. The evening will be an intimate celebration of food, wine, and community. A selection of talented local sommeliers will also be present to assist with wine service. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m., and dinner will begin shortly after at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$500 per person and include bottomless champagne service.

Guests are welcome to bring bottles of wine to enjoy with dinner. All proceeds from the pay-what-you-want corkage fees and ticket sales will be donated to Vibrant Emotional Health. This year’s collaboration follows the success of this past spring event, which raised more than \$63,000 for Vibrant Emotional Health, the administrator for the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.

The 988 Lifeline, a network of more than 210 state and local call centers, has answered nearly 5 million calls, texts and chats from people looking for help with suicide, mental health and substance use-related crises since launching last July. In July 2023, the 988 Lifeline network announced an LGBTQIA+ subnetwork and Spanish text and chat services. These programs, alongside other efforts to democratize access to U.S. mental health care, broadened the 988 Lifeline’s reach and enabled crucial support to diverse communities nationwide.

Guests can book a ticket [here](#). For those who cannot attend but would like to donate, please visit and learn more [here](#). If you have questions, please contact pausingforthecause2019@gmail.com.

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About Vibrant Emotional Health

Vibrant Emotional Health is a non-profit organization that helps individuals and families achieve emotional wellbeing. For over 50 years, our groundbreaking solutions have delivered high-quality services and support when, where and how people need it. We offer confidential emotional support through our state-of-the-art contact center and crisis hotline services that use leading-edge telephone, text and web-based technologies, including the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, Disaster Distress Helpline, Veterans Crisis Line, and NFL Life Line. Through our community wellness programs, individuals and families obtain the support

and skills they need to thrive. Our advocacy and education initiatives promote mental wellbeing as a social responsibility. We help nearly 5 million people live healthier and more vibrant lives each year. We're advancing access, dignity and respect for all and revolutionizing the system for good. Visit vibrant.org. And follow Vibrant on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

About El Che Steakhouse & Bar:

El Che Steakhouse & Bar is Executive Chef/Partner John Manion's homage to Argentina's beloved asados, traditional backyard barbecues featuring platters of rustic flame-finished grilled beef. Located on the edge of the West Loop's famed "restaurant row," El Che has built a reputation as Chicago's go-to destination for beef, South American wines and live-fire cooking. The 12-foot custom-built grill serves as the inspiration for the menu, which includes South American-tinged meats, seasonal vegetables, seafood and novel barrio-inflected snacks. Its heat—both figuratively and literally—can be felt throughout the restaurant, especially at the Chef's Counter and Hearth Table located directly in front of it. Chef Manion's passion for Latin America, where he lived as a child, imbues the deeply flavorful dishes and dramatic setting of the 100-seat restaurant. The wonderfully simple, ingredient-focused food is complemented by a 100% South American wine list that highlights the unique and expanding varietals of the region. El Che Steakhouse & Bar has earned a coveted three-star rating from the *Chicago Tribune* and was named in the "Top 50 Chicago Restaurants" by the *Tribune's* former dining critic, Phil Vettel. Located at 845 W Washington Blvd, visit elchechicago.com for more details or follow @elchechicago on Instagram and Facebook.

About Obélix:

Obélix is a modern French restaurant in Chicago's River North neighborhood. Run by brothers Oliver and Nicolas Poilevey (Le Bouchon), Obélix combines neighborhood vibes with cutting edge French cookery using international ingredients. Chef Oliver Poilevey's menu tells the story of a French chef who grew up in Chicago, utilizing French technique to blend French, North African, Southeast Asian and Mexican flavors into cohesive and delicious dishes. The bar features French wine, artisanal beer and stiff cocktails. For more information, please visit <https://www.obelixchicago.com/>