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CHICAGO CHEF, ACTOR HOST HOLIDAY TOY GIVEAWAY ON WEST SIDE

Toy Donations Still Being Accepted As Omicron, Supply Chain Issues Crush Families Already Hard-Hit During the Holidays

CHICAGO, **IL**, **DECEMBER 23**, **2021**— Restaurateur and veteran <u>Quentin Love</u> has teamed up with fellow Chicago native, <u>actor Simeon Henderson</u>, and community volunteers to bring holiday cheer to families on the west side who have been hit hard by COVID-19.

Starting at noon on Christmas Eve, they will hand out toys, electronics and other holiday essentials at **Turkey Chop Gourmet Grill** located at **3506 West Chicago Avenue**, **Chicago**, **IL 60651**, near Humboldt Park. The toys and other items will be given out until everything is gone.

What's new this year? Donations have been significantly down compared to previous years. As a result, the Love Foundation is still accepting donations online and in-person right up until the toy giveaway at 12 p.m. on Friday, December 24. The Love Foundation appreciates donations in any amount and invites people to drop off new toys, electronics and children's clothing to the restaurant.

Love, who grew up on Chicago's south and west sides, attributes the dip in donations to the uncertainty many families are facing due to COVID-19. New COVID variants coupled with supply chain issues have also made it harder for donors to find toys.

"You definitely see the negative impact COVID is having on the people in our community from their health and emotional well-being to the financial toll. So many families are struggling to make ends meet and we want to show them we care—by bringing a smile to these children's faces for Christmas," said Love.

Quentin Love is a Chicago native, Marine, Desert Storm veteran, <u>restaurateur</u>, CEO of <u>Bikettle</u>, author and philanthropist who is committed to improving the lives of Chicagoans through healthier food options, fitness and economic empowerment. He has been featured on Food Network, OWN's *Super Soul Sunday*, HLN and countless local and national TV and radio programs, podcasts and in Oprah Magazine, Black Enterprise, ESSENCE and the Chicago Tribune.

The Love Foundation (501c3) is a non-profit organization committed to supporting and uplifting families on Chicago's south and west sides by providing them with resources, education and mentorship for health and wellness, personal development, and economic empowerment.

For interviews or more information, contact Jackie Adams at (504)957-8684.