American Culinary Federation Education Foundation
Celebrates 5th Annual National Apprenticeship Week Nov. 11-17

New digital Apprenticeship Portal dedicated to helping the busy, aspirational culinary workforce develop essential skills and training

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLA., November 11, 2019 —The American Culinary Federation (ACF) and its educational arm, the American Culinary Federation Education Foundation (ACFEF), are proud to celebrate the U.S. Department of Labor’s fifth annual National Apprenticeship Week, Nov. 11-17. Since 1979, ACFEF culinary apprenticeships, the first of their kind to be offered in the United States, have combined on-the-job experience with related classroom instruction and expert mentorship for future chefs.

To raise awareness of the value of culinary apprenticeships this National Apprenticeship Week, ACF is highlighting the achievements of two recently launched programs:

- **Harvest Table Culinary Group (HTCG) ACFEF culinary apprenticeship, based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania** launched its apprenticeship program in October of this year and currently has students at the University of Redlands and Wake Forest University pursuing the Sous Chef track. The apprentices are paid members of HTCG’s hourly culinary team where they experience diverse, real-world kitchen experiences at HTCG properties. Once they complete the program, they become candidates for promotion into a supervisory capacity.

- **The Tahoe Culinary Academy at Lake Tahoe Community College in South Lake Tahoe, California** debuted its 2000-hour Culinarian Apprenticeship program September of this year. Apprentices in this “small but mighty” program will work with a variety of employers through on-the-job-learning. Planned additions over the next six months to a year include increasing access to college level credit as well as growing a partnership with Washington State University.

Additionally, in June ACF expanded its apprenticeship offerings by creating a new hybrid portal for aspiring apprentices that serves as a digital hub for online learning, skills development, curriculum management and other resources to make apprenticeships more accessible to aspiring chefs and more beneficial to the kitchens in which they work.
and learn. As the workforce changes over time, ACF’s modernized portal allows apprentices all over the country to get the highest level of training and experience.

“ACFEF apprenticeship programs have long been established as a successful pathway to give aspiring professionals hands-on experience in developing the technical abilities and professionalism required to advance into successful careers,” said ACF National President Stafford T. DeCambra, CEC, CCE, CCA, AAC. “Employers also benefit from hosting apprentices because they have the ability to train the reliable and skilled workforce the foodservice industry wants and needs. For ACF and ACFEF, apprenticeships are key to growing a strong and capable workforce of aspiring chefs.”

To learn more about the American Culinary Federation and ACFEF apprenticeship, including how to start or enroll in a program, visit acfchefs.org. For stories and insights from apprentices and their supervisors, visit WeAreChefs.com.

About the American Culinary Federation
The American Culinary Federation, Inc. (ACF), established in 1929, is the standard of excellence for chefs in North America. With more than 15,500 members spanning more than 170 chapters nationwide, ACF is the leading culinary association offering educational resources, training, apprenticeship and programmatic accreditation. In addition, ACF operates the most comprehensive certification program for chefs in the United States, with the Certified Executive Chef®, Certified Sous Chef®, Certified Executive Pastry Chef® and Certified Culinary Educator® designations accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies. The American Culinary Federation Education Foundation is home to ACF Culinary Team USA, the official representative for the United States in major international culinary competitions, and to Chef & Child, founded in 1989 to promote proper nutrition in children and to combat childhood obesity. For more information, visit www.acfchefs.org. Find ACF on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and digital publications hub WeAreChefs.com.

About National Apprenticeship Week
National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) is a National Celebration that offers leaders in business, labor, education, and other critical partners a chance to express their support for Apprenticeship. NAW also gives apprenticeship sponsors the opportunity to showcase their programs, facilities and apprentices in their community. The week-long event highlights the benefits of apprenticeship in preparing a highly-skilled workforce to meet the talent needs of employers across diverse industries. For more information, visit https://www.dol.gov/apprenticeship/naw/.