

PROVIDE GOOD WORKS, RENDER GOOD WILL

At The Republic of Tea we embody the ancient Chinese philosophy of *Tashun* -- the Great Harmony -- when people naturally care about the world and depend on each other for the well-being of the whole. It is a collective concern for others and aspiration to seek opportunities, initiatives and actions that will better the human condition as well as the planet. To provide good works, render goodwill.

THE FORCE FOR POSITIVE CHANGE

If you have ever sipped a cup of our British Breakfast or Mango Ceylon tea, then you have delighted in the premium black tea leaves of Sri Lanka. An island off the southern tip of India, Sri Lanka is known for its rich tradition of women harvesting tea by hand. Through their skills, strength and dedication, these women drive local economies and boost their communities in the process. Like in other developing countries, many Sri Lankans often struggle with good knowledge of food nutrition, safe drinking water and sanitation. Working with the international nonprofit, the Ethical Tea Partnership, and a local nonprofit, the PALM Foundation, The Republic of Tea established the Women of Tea: Sri Lanka program focused on nutrition, hygiene and financial literacy, with the goal of elevating thousands of women and their families. Expanding upon its work with the Ethical Tea Partnership, The Republic of Tea co-funds Healthy Diets for Tea Communities, a coalition led by The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), to address poor nutrition in tea supply chains in Assam (India), Kenya, and Malawi. The initiative supports tea communities through a range of sustainability initiatives and are invested in improving the lives of the people who grow and produce tea.

Whole Planet Foundation® is a Whole Foods Market foundation that funds poverty alleviation worldwide where the company sources products. Since 2013, The Republic of Tea funded \$213,737 of microloan funds to entrepreneurs in developing countries creating thousands of opportunities for a better life for entrepreneurs and their families. To date, Whole Planet Foundation has funded 4.5 million microloans and 24 million opportunities for microentrepreneurs and their family members in 77 countries. The Republic of Tea donates a portion of sales from its Whole Foods Market exclusive Organic Holiday Chai Tea to the Whole Planet Foundation.

In addition to supporting charitable organizations through the sale of fine teas and herbs, The Republic of Tea contributes to unique and deserving non-profit organizations like the The Dr. Marnie Rose was just 27 and in the first year of her pediatric medical residency at Memorial Hermann Children's Hospital, Houston, Texas, when she was diagnosed with a rare form of brain cancer. Despite her diagnosis, she agreed to share her personal cancer journey, personal life and professional duties as a medical resident in the acclaimed ABC TV reality series "Houston Medical." Upon her passing in 2002, The Rose Family established The Dr. Marnie Rose Foundation that honors their daughter by funding brain cancer research and pediatric initiatives. The Republic of Tea is the founding sponsor of The Dr. Marnie Rose Foundation as well as a presenting sponsor of the organization's preeminent fund-raising event, The Run for the Rose, held each April in Houston.

The Republic of Tea takes an active interest in the well-being of the communities in which it's based, which is why charitable groups like <u>Homeward Bound of Marin</u> in California are near to its heart. A local organization committed to "opening doors to safety, dignity, hope and independence" coupled with a vision that "everyone deserves a place to call home," they are the chief providers of shelter and residential services for homeless families and individuals, serving over 1,300 people per year. The

Republic of Tea is the premier sponsor of Homeward Bound's monthly Celebrity Chef Events. Many of our local Ministers volunteer at Homeward Bound each year.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the North Bay, based in San Rafael, CA, helps children realize their potential and build their futures. They inspire children to achieve and strengthen their communities through volunteer activism. Their mission is to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring professionally supported, one-to-one relationships that change their lives for the better, forever. For more than 40 years, this agency has provided carefully screened, trained volunteer mentors to our community's most at-risk youth – breaking cycles of poverty, drugs and violence. The Republic of Tea is proud to support Big Brothers Big Sisters of the North Bay and its family-friendly events, including Bow for Kids Sake, Celebrate for Kids Sake, Golf for Kids Sake and Morning of Inspiration.

Based in Southern Illinois, near The Republic of Tea production facility, <u>Community Link</u> is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities in the communities they serve. The Republic of Tea lends a hand to the success of its major fundraising events, the Buddy Walk and Golf Scramble. With a mission to challenge, teach and inspire both participants and the community, Community Link hopes to realize its vision of seeing people with developmental disabilities, and other difficulties, live and participate in a community that values their presence and contributions.

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About The Republic of Tea:

The Republic of Tea enriches people's lives through its great-tasting premium teas and herbs, education and innovation, as it emphasizes a "Sip by Sip Rather Than Gulp by Gulp" lifestyle. Founded in 1992, The Republic of Tea sparked a specialty tea revolution. Today the brand delivers an unequaled selection of the highest-quality teas, herbal blends, and nature-inspired sipware at an incredible value. The Republic of Tea's collections boast over 300 all-natural premium teas and diverse offerings which include, but are not limited to: organic SuperAdapt™ Teas, SuperDigest Tea® collection, Beautifying Botanicals®, Be Well® Teas, Downton Abbey™ Teas, Star Wars: The Mandalorian Teas, organic SuperHerb® Teas, U-Matcha™ and Single Sips®. Further, The Republic of Tea is mindful of how its actions impact the greater community and actively supports organizations like Homeward Bound of Marin and The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), which works towards access to nutritious, safe, and affordable food for all. The Republic of Tea also works to elevate the consciousness of sustainability; it is a member of the Ethical Tea Partnership, Upcycled Food Association, Climate Collaborative and American Herbal Products Association. Certifications include Demeter USA Certified Biodynamic®, Gluten-Free certification, Non-GMO Project verification, OU Kosher certification, and USDA Organic certification. For more information, please visit www.REPUBLICofTEA.com or call 1.800.298.4832. Follow The Republic of Tea on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

Press Contacts: Nicole Lax, Sarah Meyer, Blake Willahan and Siena Di Roma, 415.325.5519, pr@republicoftea.com