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Andy Cohen to Host Opportunity Fund’s Massive Online Cocktail and Dinner Party to Benefit Small Business Relief

Andy Cohen, host of Bravo’s Watch What Happens Live with Andy Cohen, will emcee ‘Eat. Drink. Give.,’ the internet’s largest cocktail and dinner party supporting small business relief on May 28; funds raised support Opportunity Fund’s Small Business Relief Fund

San Francisco, May 12, 2020--Opportunity Fund, the nation’s leading nonprofit small business lender, is holding *Eat. Drink. Give.* on May 28 from 6-7:30pm PT / 9-10:30 ET, a night of online fun, food and cocktails emceed by Andy Cohen of *Watch Happens Live with Andy Cohen*, to benefit America’s small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The event, [open to all with a suggested donation](#), will also feature restaurant and catering entrepreneurs that are Opportunity Fund clients. Donations raised during the online event will benefit small businesses nationwide through Opportunity Fund’s [Small Business Relief Fund](#).

The country’s 30 million small businesses are experiencing an existential crisis as they do their part to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by closing and honoring shelter-in-place orders. Half of small businesses have less than [15 days](#) of cash buffer, as many as [44% of small businesses](#) are having to close and experts expect that [most restaurants will never reopen](#).

“This is going to be a very special night for a very important cause--helping our small businesses survive this once-in-century crisis. We have to decide what we want our Main Streets to look like when this is over, and we must act decisively to keep small businesses alive and ready to rebuild. This is a fun way to do something really important,” said Opportunity Fund and Accion Opportunity Fund CEO Luz Urrutia. “Order some food or cook a meal, pour yourself a drink, enjoy some laughs with some amazing people and know that your support will make a huge difference to small business owners and their employees who have been devastated by this pandemic.”

The online event will take place from 6-7:30pm PT / 9-10:30pm ET on May 28. Partygoers may also pre-order [a specially curated delivery dinner from participating Opportunity Fund clients](#), while enjoying music, entertainment and a few laughs with host Andy Cohen in conversation with small business owners, advocates and guests throughout the show.

“As we stay home to save lives, this is a great chance to join a fun shared experience, and keep our small businesses strong,” Urrutia said.

Donations will go to Opportunity Fund’s [Small Business Relief Fund](#), which aims to raise \$50 million, of which \$13 million has already been raised from individual donors across 35 states along with institutional funders both regionally and nationally. The Fund provides critical financial relief and business assistance to small businesses impacted by COVID-19, especially women, minority, and immigrant-owned businesses left behind by the CARES Act. Opportunity Fund has already provided deferred payment terms to over 2,600 of its existing small business clients within the first weeks of the economic crisis. Accion Opportunity Fund has reached nearly 3,000 small business owners in 36 states with educational resources online to help them navigate business challenges they are facing. Every \$1 donated provides for \$0.40 of small business debt relief, \$0.40 toward loss mitigation and \$0.20 to deploy new capital.

Everyone from across the country and around the world is invited. Partygoers can RSVP at: www.opportunityfund.org/eatdrinkgive

Event Details

What: *Eat, Drink. Give.* The internet’s largest cocktail and dinner party to benefit small businesses.

Who: Hosted by Andy Cohen, host of *Watch What Happens Live with Andy Cohen* on Bravo; featuring Opportunity Fund restaurant and catering entrepreneurs and Luz Urrutia, Opportunity Fund & Accion Opportunity Fund CEO

When: May 28, 2020; 6-7:30pm PT / 9-10:30pm ET

Where: www.opportunityfund.org/eatdrinkgive everyone welcome. Generous donations suggested.

Why: Raise money to support small businesses during COVID-19 via Opportunity Fund’s [Small Business Relief Fund](#)

RSVP: www.opportunityfund.org/eatdrinkgive

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About Opportunity Fund

Opportunity Fund, the nation's leading nonprofit small business lender, believes small dollar loans help hard-working entrepreneurs make lasting change in their own lives and build stronger communities by growing businesses and creating jobs. Opportunity Fund's community of donors and investors is creating an inclusive financial system that empowers women, immigrant, and minority small business owners. Our strategy combines microloans for small business owners and New Markets Tax Credit investments in high-impact community infrastructure projects. Since 1994, Opportunity Fund has deployed more than \$900 million and helped thousands of entrepreneurs invest in their families' futures. The organization has committed to lending an additional \$1.2 billion to small business owners across the country and investing \$174 million in community real estate projects by 2023.

About Accion Opportunity Fund

In March, 2020, Opportunity Fund and Accion, The US Network, joined forces to establish [Accion Opportunity Fund](#), the first organization focused on a national microlending strategy to meet the credit needs of small businesses – developing new products, establishing new partnerships, promoting research and financial education, and leveraging digital technologies to support mission-driven lending. www.opportunityfund.org

Opportunity Fund has [earned the highest 4-star rating](#) by Charity Navigator for trust and transparency.