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MEMBERS GOOD NEWS STORY

Blake Read | Beach Burrito



Coraggio Sydney member, Blake Read opened Beach Burrito with his wife and business partner Emma Read in late 2006. After arriving back from USA's West Coast with a deep knowledge and appreciation for Mexican cuisine whilst acknowledging Sydney's then lack of Mexican food and keen thirst for an ice cold frozen margarita, the Reads decided to combine the cuisine and the culture – resulting in the birth of Beach Burrito Co.

Since opening in the Summer of 2006, through determination and an unwavering approach, the family run business has grown to 10 unique venues across Australia, from the pristine sands and Gold Coast's curling right-handers, to the snowy mountains of Jindabyne, and all the way down to the tight-knit beach side community of Glenelg in South Australia. Every venue's fit-out is designed to offer space and a unique personality, influenced heavily by its local environment. The look and feel of each venue captures the essence and nostalgia of grass roots art, music, surf, skate and snow communities.

During the pandemic Blake and Emma innovatively identified ways to stay viable until the economy turned around. Community and giving back are in Beach Burritos DNA which led them to an idea to assist support healthcare and frontline workers whilst keeping their doors opened.

Recognising how healthcare and frontline workers are overworked and understaffed racing from work to home and back again, struggling to find time to cook proper meals. To make matters worse, many hospital cafeterias are closed, leaving hospital staff with limited options and yet these people are putting their lives on the line, and therefore Beach Burritos felt compelled to step up.

Unfortunately, during the pandemic and the resultant reduction in sales Beach Burrito had to severely reduce their family of employees. However through this program they can continue to give back, and sustain their business and employees working.

Their aim is to feed as many healthcare workers as possible at the following hospitals:

- John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle
- RPA Hospital, Camperdown
- Prince of Wales Hospital Randwick
- Sutherland Hospital, Sutherland
- Royal Adelaide Hospital

Beach Burritos are committed to feeding people in 3 ways:

- Delivering \$12 burritos directly to the hospitals
- Making \$12 burritos or \$3 tacos for healthcare workers to collect from Beach Burrito Co.
- Providing gift cards for healthcare workers to buy burritos, tacos or a well-deserved margarita outside work hours.
- Burritos are a complete meal, requiring no cutlery, and can be 'eaten on the go'. They are a fresh, healthy, protein filled meal - ideal for tired, time poor healthcare workers.
- The World Health Organisation has set the benchmark for optimal nutrition and well-being during this crisis. Nutrition is the baseline for optimal health and immunity.
- They will provide zero contact direct delivery to the hospitals listed above, limiting contact, without third party involvement.

Additionally, if you would like your donation to go towards a meal for a specific hospital or healthcare worker, provide details in your comments for this request to ensue.

We are proud to have Blake Read as a member of Coraggio because despite the hospitality industry facing difficult times Beach Burrito has managed to be agile and innovative whilst continuing to support their wider community. To help support Beach Burrito's endeavours to support our healthcare workers please [click here](#).