

## New Haven Register - February 11, 2010 - IT'S A GUY THING: Men will determine the menu at March 27 fundraiser

Diane Stroman, TEAM vice president of development, welcomes participants Tuesday to the kickoff and information session at John J. Sullivan's restaurant for the third annual "Men Who Cook" fundraiser, to be held March 27 at Warsaw Park in Ansonia. The fundraiser will benefit Training, Education and Manpower Inc., a Derby community action agency. (Peter Hvizdak/Register)



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By Patricia Villers, Register Staff

ANSONIA · What's cooking? That depends on whom you ask.

If you pose the question to one of the almost 50 men taking part in the third annual "Men Who Cook" fundraiser next month, the answer could be anything from an appetizer to a dessert.

A reception to familiarize the cooks with the logistics of the event was held Tuesday at John J. Sullivan's restaurant. The fundraiser will be held 6-11 p.m. March 27 at Warsaw Park on Pulaski Highway. Tickets are \$50 and will not be sold at the door.

There will be dancing to the music of The Rubber City Blues Band. Proceeds will benefit Training, Education and Manpower, a Derby community action agency. Naugatuck Valley Savings and Loan is the marquee sponsor.

TEAM President/CEO Richard Knoll said three years ago he and Diane Stroman, TEAM vice president of development, brainstormed ideas as to how to keep the agency's programs afloat. "Diane's dream was to do a Men Who Cook" event, Knoll said.

Event chairmen are Dave Grant of David M. Grant Caterers in Shelton and Charles Sullivan, an owner of John J. Sullivan's restaurant.

Sullivan joked with the cooks that if they are wondering how much to prepare, "If it's good, you'll run out; if it's not so good, you won't." Sullivan said last year's event raised more than \$37,000. He said participants will be supplied with aprons, hats, gloves and chafing dishes. He said there are several locations at which they can prepare the foods, including Ansonia High School.

Stroman requested assistance in the form of donations of everything from timeshares and trips, to baseball game tickets for a silent auction.

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