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## NEWS

# Longo family wins award

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Catholic Family Services Peel Dufferin (CFSPD) will award the Longo family the second annual Davis Family Award for their contributions to the community at a dinner Nov. 27 at Oakville's Glen Abbey Golf Course.

"The first time I went to the Longo offices, I was moved by this portrait of three brothers (Tommy, Joe and Gus) and the mission statement that was written alongside," said Sharon Mayne Devine, executive director, CFSPD. "When I read their mission, which is about family, community and good food, it struck me that their mission speaks to what ours is: supporting and strengthening families. So, they (Longo family) were a logical choice for the award."

Like many of the families that CFSPD helps, the Longo brothers were once newcomers to Canada, who, through hard work, built their grocery chain one store at a time.

"I think it all ties together because it's who we are as a family and our values," said Longo's CEO Anthony Longo. "Our values are entwined with our business. Giving back to the community and helping others is something that my father and uncles did from day

one and that philosophy continues to live."

As a Canadian success story, their success will encourage and inspire other immigrants to chase their dreams, Devine said.

At the dinner, guests will be served a meal prepared by the students of CFSPD's community kitchen, Good Food Brampton, under the supervision of Glen Abbey's executive chef Jamie Hussey.

The Longo Family Charitable Foundation, an ardent backer of CFSPD, was among those that threw support behind the creation of the William G. Davis Centre for Families, 60 West Dr. in Brampton. The building was Peel's first multi-service support centre, housing more than 15 agencies.

Longo said his company receives many awards and he's humbled by each and every one of them, but being recipient of the Davis Family Award is in itself special.

"To be named in the same sentence as Bill Davis is an honour and quite humbling," he said.

In 2014, CFSPD helped some 36,650 individuals with walk-in counseling, workshops, group sessions and help with settlement and employment. Tickets to the gala cost \$125 per person. Contact Rob El-Sayed, manager, fund development and communications at 905-450-1608 ext. 181.