

DINNER UNDER THE STARS FOR KIDNEY HEALTH

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Austin Lane was turned into an elegant dining experience provided by Little Miss Korea and their celebrity Chef Chung Jae Lee.

Best known for its graffiti wall, Austin Lane in the city was recently closed off and transformed into an elegant dining experience for a very special evening unlike any ever seen in Darwin before.

Over 100 people attended the unique fundraising 'Dinner Under the Stars' event to raise much-needed awareness for Kidney Health and Donate Life. Hosted by award-winning celebrity chef and owner of Little Miss Korea (LMK) Chung Jae Lee, a delicious three-course meal with canapes and exceptional wines was created while hilarious Nicole Stevens entertained diners. Chung Jae Lee is now a huge advocate for Donate Life as without a donor he wouldn't be as healthy or here cooking for everyone today. During Christmas 2014 while visiting family in South Korea he learned his kidneys were only functioning at five per cent. For the next two years, he spent five hours a day, three days a week at Royal Darwin Hospital (RDH) on dialysis. 'It was a difficult time for my wife Sam, and daughters Bella and Pia,' he said. 'Thankfully in November 2016 a matching donor was found and I had the kidney transplant in Adelaide.' On his return to Darwin they discovered the closest urine testing

machine, to make sure the kidneys are working properly, is in Adelaide and it takes two days to get results. 'That can be a crucial time if medication requires adjusting to avoid rejection, so we decided on this dinner. We wanted to increase access to treatment and improve outcomes for the many Territorians living with kidney disease,' said Sam Lee. 'We had a local graffiti artist paint a Donate Life logo on the LMK Austin Lane graffiti wall surrounded by lots of love hearts and the wording: "Make your decision count, register today." This was used as the welcoming point where attendees had their photo taken.' The evening raised \$12,062.78 and has gone towards a urine testing machine for RDH. 'By donating organs people can save the lives of many, even hundreds if you consider all family members and the normal lives recipients get back,' added Sam. 'It's amazing how one person can have such an effect on hundreds of others. We are very grateful and Chung Jae continues to get stronger every day.' To register contact: donatelife.gov.au



Dessert was laden on the table over lashings of chocolate sauce for guests to indulge in.