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Casidy Sterner, 9, helped at the San Diego Food Bank. His dad, Ewell, and Hilton Hotels launched the Hunger at Home project. Peggy Prattin / U-T photo

LA JOLLA

A big helping for the hungry

Hilton, worker push plans for special project

By Jennifer Vigt
STAFF WRITER

Ewell Sterner took his son Casidy with him a few months ago during one of the nights his employer sends a group of workers to sort donations at the San Diego Food Bank.

Casidy, a fourth-grader at Chaparral Elementary School in Poway, thought it was fun, being around the adults, "sorting cans and stuff and helping people."

Yet the meaning of it all — that

people must be going hungry if all that food was in a warehouse waiting for them — startled him.

The 9-year-old asked his dad if they could do more. Since Sterner happens to be food and beverage director for one of San Diego's Hilton Hotel properties, the answer was yes.

Months of planning are leading up to a Nov. 21 gala at the Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines, where Sterner hopes to raise \$500,000 for

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Kyle Knight (left) and Joshi Gonzales, part the volunteer group put together by Ewell Sterner worked at food bank fundraiser help it and special project is set for Nov. 21 in La Jolla.