

### Beyond Breaking Even: Navigating Catering Costs While Maximizing Profits

Clint Elkins, SB Value Daniel Joseph, Blue Plate Chicago Rajan Mistry, District Events & Catering Jay Varga, The JDK Group

## Today's Panel



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How are food costs shaping up in 2024 and what does that mean for caterers in terms of adjusting prices? Can you speak to any continued shortages and/or inflation of products?

#### Likewise, what are your predictions for 2024 in terms of deflation of food costs - if any?

Are there specific food items that have experienced significant price fluctuations, and how have you adjusted your menu offerings and prices accordingly? How have you communicated price changes with your clients, and what kind of feedback have you received?

# What are some ways that caterers can avoid leaving money on the table?

What are some of your best practices for reducing and negotiating costs while maintaining quality?

#### I am a small to mid-sized catering company – how can I increase my bottom line?

After you plan properly and purchase correctly, how can you further maximize sales and profits? What staple food items can you buy differently without negatively impacting your company's standards? In an industry known for seasonality when it comes to ingredients, how do you adapt your pricing strategies for anything that may be out-of-season?

#### What should I pay attention to when negotiating pricing with my supplier(s)?

## Questions?

## Let's Continue the Conversation



# Thank you for coming!



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