



Adam Putnam 2017 Honorary Chair



Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Adam Putnam will serve as Honorary Chairman for the Achievement Academy's third annual "Top Chef of Polk County" event, which will be held on Monday, April 10, at the Lakeland Center.

"I am honored to be asked and happy to serve as Honorary Chair of an event that will support the Achievement Academy's continuing efforts to provide programs and services for children with special needs," Commissioner Putnam said. *"I am very familiar with the Achievement Academy and so is my family. We know what a difference they have made*

in the lives of the children and families they have served throughout Polk County for more than 60 years."

Adam Putnam was elected to serve a second term as Florida's Commissioner of Agriculture on November 4, 2014, and was sworn into office on January 6, 2015. In this capacity, he oversees the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and serves as a member of Florida's Cabinet. Previously, Commissioner Putnam served five terms as Congressman for Florida's 12th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. During that time, he was elected Republican Policy Chairman during the 109th Congress and Chairman of the House Republican Conference for the 110th Congress, the highest elected leadership position any Floridian of either party has held in Washington. During his time in Congress, Commissioner Putnam was also a member of the House Committees on Government Reform, Agriculture, Rules and Financial Services. Before he was elected to Congress, Commissioner Putnam served in the Florida House of Representatives from 1996 to 2000. A graduate of the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Science degree in food and resource economics, Commissioner Putnam is a fifth-generation Floridian who grew up in the citrus and cattle industry. He and his wife, Melissa, have four children.