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ATLANTA COMMUNITY FOOD BANK HOSTS THIRD ANNUAL
NOCHE BUENA DISH DEC. 21
Cuban restaurant and local food supplier offers comfort and tradition for Noche Buena

ATLANTA, GA – Though this year’s holiday season looks different in many ways, there is still a chance to embrace giving and celebrate traditions. For Hispanics, Noche Buena, or Christmas Eve, is typically celebrated with a feast to honor the day’s importance within the culture. Unfortunately, one in seven people in Georgia don’t always have access to the nutritious food they need, a situation that has only worsened during the pandemic. On Monday, December 21, local agencies hope to change that. The Atlanta Community Food Bank will be joined by local Hispanic media to celebrate its third annual Noche Buena Dish (El Plato de Noche Buena), where volunteers will prepare, cook, and distribute 500 traditional Noche Buena meals.

Hosting the event is Mojitos Cuban American Bistro, who are offering participants the chance to prepare traditional Hispanic foods served at a Noche Buena feast, such as roast pork, congri (rice and beans), yuca and tres leches. Diaz Foods donated the ingredients needed to honor the spirited tradition. The meals will benefit two of the Food Bank’s partner agencies that serve a higher Hispanic demographic, Ministerio Shalom Inc. and Ministerio Internacional El Rey Jesus Georgia Inc.

"In our third year celebrating the Noche Buena Dish, we are especially thankful to continue this tradition despite the challenges of COVID-19," said Kyle Waide, President and CEO of the Atlanta Community Food Bank. "With a 300% increase in inquiries from Georgians seeking food assistance due to the pandemic, we are grateful to Diaz Foods and Mojitos for allowing us to uphold this tradition and provide holiday joy to those in our Atlanta-based Hispanic communities."

"The pandemic has changed so much for our communities this year, but the holidays should always be a place for celebrating tradition," said Luis Fernandez, owner of Mojitos Cuban American Bistro. "We are honored to be able to host the Atlanta Community Food Bank for the Noche Buena Dish again, and to give the gift of food and culture after such a demanding year."

For more information about the Atlanta Community Food Bank, visit www.acfb.org.

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About the Atlanta Community Food Bank

The Atlanta Community Food Bank works to end hunger with the food, people and big ideas needed to ensure our neighbors have the nourishment to lead healthy and productive lives. Far
too many people in our own community experience hunger every day, including children, seniors and working families. Through more than 700 nonprofit partners, we help more than 864,000 people get healthy food every year. Our goal is that all hungry people across metro Atlanta and North Georgia will have access to the nutritious meals they need when they need them. It takes the power of our whole community to make that possible. Join us at ACFB.org.