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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Open Hand Atlanta raises $525,000 during annual Party in the Kitchen fundraiser**

*Local organization provides home-delivered, health-promoting meals to locals with chronic illnesses*

**ATLANTA** **(Oct. 8, 2021)** – Atlantans were spectacularly wined-and-dined during **Open Hand Atlanta’s 18th Annual Party in the Kitchen** benefit on **Sept. 30**. The event raised a grand total of **$525,000**, which will fund Open Hand Atlanta’s programs and services by providing home-delivered, health-conscious meals to people living with nutrition-sensitive chronic disease and homebound seniors throughout the Atlanta community and state of Georgia.

“We are truly humbled and honored to see the way the community came together this year to support us,” said Open Hand Executive Director Matt Pieper. “With the challenges of the past 18 months, it was incredibly heartwarming to see everyone return this year with such wonderful generosity.”

Chef Chairs Kevin Rathbun and Gerry Klaskala, along with Co-Chairs Helen S. Carlos and Carmen Titelman led the charge, crafting an elegant night of mingling, tasting, bidding and dancing. Attendees were able to savor food and drinks from 20 of Atlanta’s best restaurants, including il Giallo, Kaiser’s Chophouse, Umi and Seed Kitchen & Bar. The evening also featured a live auction, allowing guests to bid on incredible experiences, such as an evening of private dining at Aria and a cocktail party at the historic Randolph-Lucas House. Silent auction highlights included a stay at Bellyard hotel; chef’s table dinners; Atlanta Falcons tickets and private, in-home cooking lessons.

For more information on Party in the Kitchen and Open Hand Atlanta, as well as events and volunteer opportunities, please visit [partyinthekitchen.org](http://partyinthekitchen.org) and [openhandatlanta.org](http://www.openhandatlanta.org) or connect via [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/OpenHandAtlanta), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/openhandatlanta) and [Instagram](https://instagram.com/openhandatlanta/).

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**About Open Hand**

Open Hand Atlanta’s mission is simple: We Cook. We Deliver. We Teach. We Care. As one of the largest community-based nutrition agencies in the country, Open Hand works to help people prevent or better manage chronic disease and improve their quality of life through tailored nutrition interventions. These include a wide variety of health-promoting meal plans as well as nutrition counseling and coaching. With the help of 10,000+ annual volunteers, Open Hand now prepares, packages and delivers 5,000+ meals per day in 19 metro-Atlanta counties. To learn more about Open Hand Atlanta programs, call 404-872-8089 or visit [openhandatlanta.org](http://www.openhandatlanta.org). Open Hand is located at 181 Armour Drive, Atlanta, GA 30324.