

DINE AFTER DARK  
KATHERINE ASHWORTH BRANDT  
PRESIDENT & FOUNDER



WWW.DINEAFTERDARK.ORG  
INFO@DINEAFTERDARK.ORG  
(202) 599-0651

## PRESS RELEASE

**Dine After Dark**  
Washington, D.C.  
**Contact: Katherine Ashworth Brandt**  
Phone: (202) 599-0651 (Day/Night)  
Email: [kbrandt@dineafterdark.org](mailto:kbrandt@dineafterdark.org)

For Immediate Release

### **MARTHA'S TABLE JOINS THE DINE AFTER DARK MOVEMENT**

**Washington, D.C.** – Dine After Dark, a new non-profit organization advocating for improved consumer services for Muslim Americans during the Islamic holiday month of Ramadan, is partnering with well-known D.C. charity Martha's Table to distribute free holiday dinners to those in need during the upcoming Ramadan holiday this spring.

“This means even the most disadvantaged among us will be able to celebrate the end of daily Ramadan fasting with a wholesome, halal-friendly meal, at an hour that aligns with the holiday's tradition of dining after dusk,” says Dine After Dark's President and Founder Katherine Ashworth Brandt, adding, “We're honored to welcome Martha's Table to our inaugural season and look forward to working together to better serve our community.”

Since 1980, Martha's Table has served disadvantaged residents of Washington, D.C., providing food access, education programs, and community support to individuals and families throughout the nation's capital. In 2017 alone, the organization served over 1.95 million free meals to people in need. This year, Martha's Table invites patrons to *Dine After Dark*, partnering with the organization to sponsor nightly pop-up meal distribution centers throughout D.C. during the month-long Ramadan holiday and serve an additional total of 1,550 free meals.

Ramadan is an Islamic holiday celebrated by 3.5 million American Muslims and 1.6 billion people worldwide. During Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, many Muslims celebrate by observing a traditional holiday fast each day from dawn until dusk. As the holiday cycles through the standard Gregorian calendar ten days earlier each year, sometimes fasting can last as late as 9:00pm – the hour when many restaurants and other conveniences close for the evening, leaving consumers with limited choices. Dine After Dark is changing that.

“Offering special consumer accommodations during holidays is not a new concept,” Brandt says, “Dine After Dark is simply encouraging more inclusion. It's good for customers, good for businesses, and good for our communities.” Dine After Dark's first season begins with the start of Ramadan on May 5 and runs through June 4, 2019. More information is available at [www.DineAfterDark.org](http://www.DineAfterDark.org).

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*For additional information, contact Katherine Ashworth Brandt, President & Founder of Dine After Dark, at (202) 599-0651 or [kbrandt@dineafterdark.org](mailto:kbrandt@dineafterdark.org).*