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NANA'S TATAS TO HOST 2ND ANNUAL FUNDRAISER BALL ON OCT 12 IN SUMMIT, IL

Proceeds to benefit Lurie Cancer Center Hispanic Breast Cancer Clinic

[SUMMIT, IL] Non-profit Nana's Tatas will present its second annual fundraiser, Nana's Tatas Masquerade Sneaker Ball, from 6:30 pm to midnight on Saturday, October 12, 2024 at the Summit Park District located at 5700 S. Archer Rd in Summit, Illinois. The vibrant event raises funds to provide educational, financial and emotional support for families in Hispanic communities to ensure they are best equipped to navigate preventative breast cancer screening, diagnosis and treatment. Proceeds from this year's ball will be donated to support the Lurie Cancer Center Hispanic Breast Cancer Clinic at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago.

Tickets for the adults-only event are \$50 and can be purchased online at www.eventbrite.com/d/il--summit/nana's-tatas/ now through October 5th. The evening will include music by a local DJ, dancing, open bar and delicious food will be catered. Guests can celebrate in comfort, as the dress code is masks and cocktail attire paired with your favorite sneakers.

Nana's Tatas was formed by Chief Executive Officer Dionna Rodriguez of Chicago, Illinois and her family in 2015. The non-profit has raised over \$2,600 for breast cancer awareness, advocacy and treatment programs. A stage IV breast cancer survivor, Rodriguez has lived with the disease for 10 years. During her own health journey, Rodriguez saw there was a severe lack of awareness and support for families in the Hispanic community on how to manage breast health and treatment options, compelling her to want to do something to help close that gap. In addition to her organization's fundraising efforts, she has traveled across the country sharing her story and served on the advisory board for Eli Lilly and as a consultant on breast cancer issues for the US Department of Defense.

"It is important for people in our Hispanic communities, facing these types of health challenges, to know there is support available and they have a voice in their own healthcare," said Rodriguez. "Education is key for Hispanic patients to make correct medical decisions and advocate for proper treatments before and after diagnosis. Through the programs Nana's Tatas

helps fund, we ensure families facing these challenges are empowered with knowledge and are not held back by the fear of the unknown.”

Led by medical oncologist Claudia Tellez, MD, the Hispanic Breast Clinic is located within Prentice Women's Hospital at 250 E. Superior St and offers personalized care from a multidisciplinary team of breast cancer experts, supportive care specialists and administrative staff who all speak Spanish. Lurie's Cancer Center will use the money raised by Nana's Tatas fundraiser to provide care for uninsured Hispanic patients who are in dire need of medical attention.

To learn more about Nana's Tatas or to sponsor or purchase tickets to the event visit www.nanastatas.com. To find out about programs or to donate to the Lurie Cancer Center Hispanic Breast Cancer Clinic, visit www.cancer.northwestern.edu/cancer-care/specialized-clinical-services/LATINX-program.html or call 312.472.0805 to speak with an English or Spanish-speaking operator.

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About Nana's Tatas: Nana's Tatas is a Chicago, Illinois-based non-profit organization founded in 2015 by breast cancer survivor Dionna Rodriguez and her family. The organization raises funds to provide educational, financial and emotional support for women and their families in the Hispanic community to better advocate for their health and navigate a breast cancer diagnosis and treatment journey, including funding care for uninsured Hispanic patients. Learn more at: www.nanastatas.com.