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***Santé: A Taste of Baltimore* Returning as In-Person Event, May 25**

*Signature fundraiser supports National Kidney Foundation’s patient services, education & research efforts*

**COCKEYSVILLE, Md.** – Baltimore’s premier food and beverage event is back as an in-person event! The **National Kidney Foundation Serving Maryland and Delaware (NKFMDDE)** will host its signature ***Santé: A Taste of Baltimore*** fundraiser, **Wednesday, May 25**, from **6 to 9 p.m.**, at the **Baltimore Museum of Industry** in **Downtown Baltimore**.

This business casual evening will feature tastings from **a variety of restaurants** **and caterers** paired with **enticing beverages** including: **Bertucco's Bakery**, **Black Tie Caterers**, **Boordy Vineyards**, **Celestial Catering**, **Farmacy Brewing**, **Little Havana**, **Log Cabin Chocolates**, **Mamma Mish’s Homemade Dishes**, **Natasha’s Just Brittle**, **Sagamore**, **Sandy Bottom Sparkling Rum Cocktail**, **Sobo Café**, **The Grill at Quarterfield Station** and managing caterer, **Zeffert and Gold Catering**.

Adding to the fun will be an **awards competition**, **photo booth, raffles** and **silent auction** featuring **sports memorabilia**, **dining**, **entertainment**, **local art**, **spa**, **health and fitness** and **vacation packages**.

**Keith Mills** (Baltimore sports anchor) will serve as emcee and professional boxer, **Demond “DBestAtIt” Nicholson** will serve as a celebrity ambassador. The cause is personal as he has almost died from kidney failure at age 26 in 2019.

Event co-chairs are **Sumeska Thavarajah, MD** (assistant professor of medicine – **Division of Nephrology at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center** and NKFMDDE Advisory Boardmember) and **Kathleen Methric** (strategic marketing liaison, Gout Business Unit at Horizon Therapeutics and NKFMDDE board member).

Event proceeds will support NKFMDDE’s **local patient emergency assistance program**, providing essentials such as **transportation**, **rent/utility relief, food and other life essentials that we take for granted**. Dollars raised also help **fund vital research** from the top nephrologists at **Johns Hopkins Medicine** and **University of Maryland Medical Center**.

*“Santé* is a delicious and fun night out that supports families affected by a major health crisis in our community,” Thavarajah said. “Nearly 3,000 Marylanders are waiting for a life-saving kidney transplant and roughly 11,000 Marylanders are on dialysis.”

“This event is critical to raising the funds necessary to ensure that people impacted by chronic kidney disease receive support to live a better quality of life while fighting this debilitating disease,” Metric concurred.

Admission to *Santé* is **$100/person.** Sponsorship opportunities are also available. To purchase tickets or to receive sponsorship, vendor participation or auction donation information, visit[**www.kidneymd.org**](http://www.kidneymd.org)or call NKFMDDE Executive Director **Pattie Dash** at **443.322.0378**.

The event is made possible by presenting sponsor, **Horizon Therapeutics**, and partners including **Johns Hopkins**,   
**Mid-Atlantic Nephrology Associates, P.A.**, **University of Maryland Medical Center**, **McCormick & Company**, **Veloxis Pharmaceuticals** and **Beck-n-Call Event Services, LLC**.

*About NKF*

*The National Kidney Foundation (NKF) is the largest, most comprehensive, and longstanding organization dedicated to the awareness, prevention, and treatment of kidney disease. For more information, visit* [***www.kidney.org***](http://www.kidney.org).

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