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TWENTY HISPANIC/LATINO EXECUTIVES LEADING THE WAY IN FOODSERVICE & HOSPITALITY

MFHA Celebrates Leaders During Hispanic Heritage Month

PROVIDENCE (September 17, 2012) -- Each year, The Multicultural Foodservice & Hospitality Alliance (MFHA) honors distinguished leaders of diverse background whose achievements have contributed to the advancement of the food and hospitality industry. In September, during Hispanic Heritage Month, MFHA is celebrating successful leaders of Hispanic/Latino descent by releasing its 3rd annual **Tribute to Hispanic Leadership in Foodservice & Hospitality** campaign.

Hispanics/Latinos are a dominant force in foodservice and hospitality, attributing to 19.6% of the U.S. hospitality workforce, according to the Department of Labor Bureau. As the largest ethnic minority, totaling to 50.2 million people, Hispanics/Latinos are a growing group in foodservice and hospitality.

The Tribute not only recognizes senior-level individuals who exhibit excellence in their fields, but also aims to communicate the industry's efforts to advance multicultural talent to executive levels. Participating corporate members of MFHA for this Tribute include: *The Coca-Cola Company; Ecolab, Inc.; McDonald's Corporation; Morrison Management Specialists; Sodexo North America; Yum! Brands, Inc.; ARAMARK; Hyatt Hotels Corporation; PepsiCo; The Wendy's Company; Burger King Corporation; Choice Hotels International; Kellogg Company; MGM Resorts International; Heinz North America and Oakwood Worldwide.*

The leaders in this year's Tribute rank among the country's elite in foodservice and hospitality. *Among the twenty profiled Hispanic/Latino leaders, there are five Chief Officers. Seven of all featured individuals are women, including three Chief Officers.* The featured leaders are a true inspiration to multicultural youth and professionals who want to pursue a successful career in foodservice and hospitality.

MFHA has honored successful multicultural leaders with the release of Multicultural Tributes in 2012: to Black Leadership in February, to Asian Pacific American Leadership in Hospitality in May and most recently, to Multicultural Allies in Hospitality in July. MFHA will continue to honor these leaders with the Wall of Leaders campaign highlighting profiles of selected leaders featured in these Tributes.

The 2012 Tribute to Hispanic/Latino Leadership in Foodservice & Hospitality can be found at:
<http://www.mfha.net/files/ads/MFHA-Hispanic-Tribute-2012-FINAL1.pdf>.

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The Multicultural Foodservice & Hospitality Alliance (MFHA)

2012 marks The Multicultural Foodservice & Hospitality Alliance's (MFHA) 15th year of making the case for multicultural opportunities in the food and hospitality industry. The 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization educates, advocates for, and connects its members with opportunities to build their cultural intelligence in order to effectively engage multicultural employees, customers, and communities. For more information, visit www.mfha.net.