



Birmingham Rally's Announces Free Lunch Program to Give Back to Local Community During COVID-19

Retired NFL players and Rally's co-owners Donnell Thompson and Ron Wooten have committed to providing free lunch to kids and local police and firefighters during the pandemic.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Retired NFL players and co-owners of six Rally's restaurants in Birmingham Donnell Thompson and Ron Wooten have committed to giving back to the community amid COVID-19 by offering free lunch Monday through Friday to kids while they're out of school and giving free meals to policemen and firefighters. The free meals for kids are valid for a Grilled Hot Dog with a small Famous Seasoned Fries. Local police and firefighters are provided a free meal of their choice from the menu.

"We have always been very close with our neighbors and involved with the schools in our community," said Thompson. "We knew that we had to help parents feed their children who were on free lunch programs, who are now no longer in school."

Thompson was drafted for the NFL straight out of college and spent 11 seasons with the Indianapolis Colts. During the offseason, Thompson found a passion for work in the restaurant industry, franchising first with McDonald's and later on with Choice Hotels, Zaxby's and Denny's. Wooten is also a retired NFL player who played for the New England Patriots as a guard for seven professional seasons. The two took over ownership of six Rally's locations in Birmingham in 2019 and shared that they are humbled to support the Birmingham community during these difficult times.

"We're fortunate to be in a position to give back throughout this pandemic, which is really what matters to us most," said Wooten. "This program is our way of giving back to the community that has continued to support us throughout these trying times. We will continue to find ways to give back and serve our guests."

ABOUT CHECKERS & RALLY'S RESTAURANTS, INC.

Based in Tampa, Fla., Checkers & Rally's Restaurants, Inc., an iconic and innovative drive-thru restaurant chain known for its "Crazy Good Food," exceptional value and people-first attitude, operates and franchises both Checkers® and Rally's® restaurants. With nearly 900 restaurants and room to grow, Checkers & Rally's is a proven brand with flexible building formats that is aggressively expanding across the country. Checkers & Rally's is dedicated to being a place where franchisees and employees who work hard can create opportunities for themselves, their families and their communities. In recent years, the brand has earned several of the industry's most prestigious awards including: "#1 Most Craveable Fries" by Restaurant Business; Best

Franchise Deal and "Best Drive-Thru in America" by QSR Magazine; Top Food and Beverage Franchise by Franchise Business Review; the "Hot! Again" award from Nation's Restaurant News and has consistently been ranked on Entrepreneur's Franchise 500. For more information about franchise opportunities with Checkers & Rally's, please visit www.checkersfranchising.com.