



December 1, 2020

Friends,

Like all independent restaurants, we are faced with the many challenges of operating during a global pandemic with capacity restrictions (25% in Baltimore City), early curfews, and no timely assistance from the federal government on the horizon. These challenges have cost restaurants a tremendous amount of revenue, resulting in hundreds of thousands of dollars in real losses for many of us. Keeping the doors open costs money—especially with fewer guests walking through those doors.

At Aldo's, we have reached the inexorable conclusion that the best way forward to ensure Aldo's remains a viable business in 2021 and beyond is to suspend our regular/nightly indoor dining operations for the time being. **This change does not mean Aldo's is closed for business.** This is yet another 2020 pivot.

Ways to support Aldo's during the month of December...

- We will still offer indoor dining opportunities, much like a private club: we will continue to accept reservations for small groups with a minimum guaranteed expenditure. Private dining guests will enjoy the entire facility to themselves (socially distanced and in accordance with executive orders). **For more information about private dining, please contact our Private Dining Manager at 410.662.2284 or PrivateDining@AldosItaly.com.**
- **A special menu of prepared foods for the holidays will also be announced soon. Please stay tuned on social media to learn about all of our holiday offerings!**

Aldo's has been a Baltimore mainstay for 22 years, since 1998. We're not going anywhere... we remain steadfast in our commitment to Baltimore, our Staff, our many Guests, and to a return to normalcy as soon as possible. Sadly, due to inaction on the part of the federal government, small business owners across the country are forced to make agonizing decisions that directly impact our staff, our families, stakeholders like farmers and vendors and the community at large. Small business owners and staff are forced to contend with countless sleepless nights, while our elected officials sleep well, having never missed a paycheck. **We call on the federal government to act—and act NOW.** We're faced with an extinction level event for independent restaurants. The US Senate must pass the Restaurants Act and other measures to assist the small business community immediately.

As for us, the surest way to guarantee Aldo's stands ready to welcome and serve you for the next 20+ years of business is to take this action now. As always, we eagerly look forward to the privilege of serving you and your guests. In the meantime, please remember Aldo's for prepared foods for the holidays and as the setting for your small private dining events. **Thank you for your continued support.** Stay safe. All the best to you and yours this holiday season and beyond. May God bless us all and bring a speedy end to this global crisis.

**The Vitale Family
and the Staff of Aldo's**

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