

"ACE's persistence and financial guidance helped me obtain a CAP loan for establishing my business."

Pablo Colon Sanchez Pablo's Bakery & Café Norcross, Georgia

## Pablo's Bakery & Café, LLC

Chef Pablo Colon opened Pablo's Bakery & Café in Norcross in 2018. He offers culinary cuisine and pastries influenced by Puerto Rico, Spain and Europe, focusing on personalized service and quality food. "Everything is made with love!"

His passion for cooking and baking came from "working behind his Grandma Rosa and Mom in the kitchen" during holidays as a child in Puerto Rico. Pablo had owned a bakery there before moving to Georgia in 2010.

When it came time to open his business, Pablo was referred to ACE by the Georgia Small Business Development Center. Although he came with over 30 years experience in the culinary field, including working in five-star hotels, Pablo didn't have the collateral needed for traditional financing. The ACE Community Advantage Loan Program was perfect for his start-up — he was approved for funds for working capital, renovations, and equipment and inventory purchases.

As for starting your own business, Pablo says don't force it, take your time, make a business plan and stick to your plan, step-by-step. Pablo says he plans to open more bakeries in the future, either in or out of state.