



May 16, 2013

Place of Hope Welcomes Record Crowd to 2013 Hope Bash



Place of Hope event organizers welcomed one of the largest crowds in the organization's history to the 2013 Hope Bash, held May 3. More than 600 people crowded into the PGA National Resort & Spa Main Ball Room to show their support for the county's foster children and the work Place of Hope does in providing them with a supportive environment.

Executive Director Charles Bender credited the record-setting attendance to new co-chairs

Nicole Henry and Elin Nordegren, who led the Hope Bash committee in creating a fresh, modern gala with creative touches, such as an electronic violin player. With the theme of "Jeans & Jewels: Palm Beach Nights," the event also invited guests to be comfortable, yet elegant, during the evening.

"We were able to welcome well-known and established supporters to meet brand new supporters, who were learning about Place of Hope for the first time, thanks to our co-chairs doing a magnificent job," Bender said. "The event was one of the most successful for Place of Hope, and it was all due to the amazing work of our Hope Bash committee."

Exclusive jewelry sponsor Raymond Lee Jewelers donated 20 percent of the evening's sales to Place of Hope. As a special nod to the "jewels" part of the theme, Raymond Lee Jewelers installed a full jewelry case in the reception area. During the silent auction, guests were able to try on and purchase sparkling jewelry.

The Berlin Family Foundation pledged a matching challenge grant for monies raised during the Hope Bash's "Bid from the Heart," also known as a cash call, and local philanthropist Chris Cline donated a stay on his 164-foot luxury yacht, *Mine Games*, to the live auction.

Additional event sponsors included Christ Fellowship; Gordon and Cheri Martin; AutoNation Cadillac; Katherine Christoffers; Italian Rose Bud and Kathy Conlan; Dave Dornen; Connie Frankino; Goldman Sachs; Chuck Hardwick and Sheilagh Mylott; David and Gail Hess; Al and Dawn Hoffman; Chad LaBonte and Erin Rossitto; Randy Macpherson WTAS LLC; BNY Melon; Joy Miltenberger; Mickey and Brenda Nocera; Philip A. Jordan, director/branch manager, The JMS Group-UBS Financial Services, Inc., Palm Beach Gardens; Kathleen Speh; Suntrust; Sal and Kim Tiano; Travani & Richter, P.A.; Waco Filters Corporation; Harris and Debbie Weinstein; The Cline Group; Cheney Brothers; PalmDale Oil; Tom & Kathleen Lane; Daniel McGuire & Stephanie Trombley; Laura Andrassy; Angela Reynolds Designs; BMO Private Bank; Erin & Sean McGould; Elin Nordegren - The Northern Lights Revocable Trust; Stroock & Stroock & Lavan, LLP; The Waste-to-Energy Team; UBS Financial, Brad & Laura Smithy; Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Belcher; Humenansky Foundation; Law Offices of Berman & Berman; Stephanie & Tony Munroe; George Pnczel, C.P.A.; TD Bank; Commissioner Hal & Stephanie Valeche and media sponsor Gulfstream Media Group. WPBF Co-Anchor Todd McDermott served as event emcee.

Proceeds from the gala fundraiser benefit the programs and operations of Place of Hope. With campuses in Palm Beach Gardens, West Palm Beach and Boca Raton, Place of Hope is a faith-based, state-licensed child welfare organization that provides family-style foster care (emergency and long-term); family outreach and intervention; maternity care; safety for domestic minor sexually trafficked victims; transitional housing and support services; adoption and foster care recruitment and support; hope and healing opportunities for children and families who have been traumatized by abuse and neglect. For more information, please call 561-775-7195 or visit online at www.placeofhope.com.