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The Center for Enriched Living's Chefs' Night Fundraiser Brings Home the Bacon!

Riverwoods, Illinois, May 23, 2014 – More than 600 guests gathered Monday, April 28 for a feast of epic proportions at The Center for Enriched Living Chefs' Night & More fundraiser at the Lincolnshire Marriott Resort. The Center for Enriched Living (CEL) is a non-profit organization serving individuals of all ages throughout Chicagoland with a wide range of intellectual and developmental disabilities, including autism, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome and others.

The event as well as the accompanying live auction and car raffle for a 2014 Corvette Stingray Coupe grossed more than **\$510,000**. The proceeds from the event go towards CEL's innovative, person-centered programming that provides opportunities to achieve goals, learn new skills, have new experiences and belong for the more than 500 individuals who participate at CEL annually.

The evening consisted of tastings from more than 30 of the area's favorite food and beverage establishments, including Bent Fork Bakery, Sullivan's Steakhouse, Prairie Moon and Vice District Brewing. The food for the event was donated by each participating restaurant.

Chicago: Ale Syndicate Brewers, Koval Distillery, Vice District Brewing
Deerfield: Biaggi's Ristorante Italiano
Evanston: Prairie Moon
Glenview: RA Sushi Bar & Restaurant
Highland Park: City Park Grill, Highland Pop
Highwood: Bent Fork Bakery, Froggy's French Café, Gourmet Frog Bakery and Carry Out
Kenosha, WI: Ashling on the Lough
Lincolnshire: Big Bowl, Eddie Merlot's, Sullivan's Steakhouse, Wildfire Lincolnshire
Long Grove: Enzo and Lucia Ristorante
Mundelein: Karma Asian Food and Fine Wine, Park Street Restaurant
Northbrook: Claim Company, Di Pescara
Northfield: Happ Inn, Taco Nano, Three Tarts Bakery & Café
Vernon Hills: Philly G's
Wheeling: Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurant, RAM Brewery & Restaurant, Starbucks

The program featured a powerful and moving speech by Hal Roseth, whose son attends CEL's REACH adult day program. "Scotty has now been a part of the CEL family for almost three years. Each day we are happier with our decision," Hal emphasized during his speech. "Our goals of assimilation and being a part of the community (for Scotty) **are** the CEL mission statement. There is a belief and attitude that this is a special place, Scotty is a special young man and CEL wants him to achieve personal success and have a quality of life that he deserves."

"Chefs' Night is really about the members we serve and providing opportunities for the greater community to see how they can get further involved," said Harriet Levy, Executive Director. "It's an opportunity to showcase what we see on a daily basis – that people with developmental disabilities are

no different than people without disabilities and deserve to be welcomed and included in every facet of the community.”

To learn more about The Center for Enriched Living and how you can become a member or volunteer, log on to www.CenterForEnrichedLiving.org or call us at 847.948.7001.

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About the Center for Enriched Living

The Center for Enriched Living exists to enhance and enrich the lives of people with developmental and intellectual disabilities – from youth through adulthood. CEL provides a space for our members to grow and learn new social, educational and independent living skills as well as have equal opportunities to fulfill their dreams and become vital participants within their communities. More information available at www.CenterForEnrichedLiving.org.