



News Release

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The Garden Party Foundation Raises \$40,000 For Local Charities

Bloomfield Hills, Mich., July 29, 2009 – This past June, The Garden Party Foundation celebrated *The Garden Party* event, featuring food from the best restaurants Michigan has to offer and 100 of the finest wines. The foundation raised \$40,000 from event proceeds to donate to two local organizations - \$20,000 each to both the Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan and Oakland Community College Culinary Studies Institute. Sydney and Elizabeth Ross, Founders of The Garden Party Foundation, made the announcement.

A special check presentation was made, on July 29 at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham, to William Seklar, President and Chief Executive Officer, Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan, and Chef Susan Baier, Program Coordinator, Oakland Community College Culinary Studies Institute.

Headquartered in Troy, Mich., Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan is a statewide agency helping Michigan families cope with leukemia, lymphoma and related disorders by providing information, financial assistance and emotional support.

Oakland Community College's Culinary Studies Institute provides students with hands-on experiences in one of the largest facilities of its type, with quality instruction by award-winning faculty.

"Our Garden Party event was a major success. We raised money for two outstanding organizations while also supporting Michigan restaurants and wineries," said the Rosses. "The Garden Party Foundation is pleased to contribute \$20,000 to both the Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan and the OCC Culinary Studies Institute. We look with excitement and anticipation to next year's event."

The 2010 Garden Party event will be held on June 13 at the Academy of the Sacred Heart in Bloomfield Hills, Mich.

About The Garden Party Foundation

The Garden Party Foundation was founded by Sydney Ross, owner of Great Lakes Wine and Spirits, Michigan's largest statewide wine and spirit distributor, and his wife, Elizabeth. The Foundation's mission is to support multiple local charities and use money raised to support Michigan causes. The foundation also aims to make The Garden Party the finest and most prominent food and wine event in the state. The Garden Party Foundation can be reached at 313.852.3951.