

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Tess Hammons
Director of Public Relations
859-431-2075 ex. 129
thammons@childreninc.org



JULIE ELKUS OF CINCINNATI CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER RECEIVES FIFTH ANNUAL CHARITY IN ACTION AWARD

More than \$90,000 Raised to Assist Greater Cincinnati Families

Cincinnati, OH – March 15 – More than 300 gathered at the Bell Event Centre on Saturday, March 15, for Raising of the Green, a sold-out fundraiser which raised more than \$90,000 to benefit the work of Children, Inc. In addition to serving as honorary event chair for the gala, Julie Elkus received the fifth annual Charity in Action Award, which honors the legacy of the Dominican Sisters of the Sick Poor.

Elkus began her service with Children, Inc.'s Visions Early Learning Center in 1989, working closely with Visions Founder and former Executive Director Marcia Simmons to plan and execute the center's opening in Cincinnati's West End. During her multiple terms on the Visions board, she served on the Executive Committee of the board as well as in roles overseeing programming and long term strategic planning. She was part of the team that oversaw the expansion of Visions to include pre-school programming, and the relocation that enabled the center to double in size.

The evening included live and silent auctions, music, cocktails, and dinner. Money raised at the event goes directly to assisting families across Greater Cincinnati in their pursuit of postsecondary education and training in order to become self-sufficient and find gainful employment. Children, Inc. aims to assist 50 such families in 2014.

Children, Inc., a United Way Agency Partner, provides high quality, readily accessible childcare, preschool and school-aged education programs with an emphasis on family success. Founded in 1977 in Northern Kentucky as an early childhood learning center, Children, Inc. has become an innovative network of education and development centers with additional built-in resources such as: home-based visitation for young mothers, service learning programs that enrich academic studies through civic engagement, professional resources and training for childcare and education professionals, advocacy, and research-based music production.



Mary C. Henkel of downtown (Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP), Eunice Timoney-Ravenna of Pleasant Ridge (Intercommunity Justice & Peace Center), Marcia Sherman of Finneytown (Macy's, Raising of the Green Title Sponsor), and Lori Zombek of Cold Spring (Northern Kentucky Area Development District - NKADD)



Rick Hulefeld of Covington (Children, Inc. Executive Director), Marcia Simmons of Fernandina Beach, Florida (Visions Founder and former Executive Director), Julie Elkus of Montgomery (Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center Director of Innovation & Design), and Gary Strassel of Hyde Park (Carlisle Enterprises, Inc. Senior Vice President and Children, Inc. Board President)



Raising of the Green Planning Committee members Lori Zombek of Cold Spring (NKADD), Brooke Gill of Wilder (Children, Inc.), and Suzanne Anderson, committee Chair, of Covington (Ernst &Young, LLP)



Local 12/WKRC Anchor John Lomax, Raising of the Green 2014 Emcee