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HMSHost Charity Event Raises Over \$325,000 for Phoenix Area Children

Phoenix Children's Hospital and Southwest Autism Research and Resource Center Benefit from Company's Efforts

BETHESDA, MD – HMSHost, a world leader in retail and dining in the travel industry, has raised \$325,000 for the Phoenix Children's Hospital and the Southwest Autism Research and Resource Center through its 20th Annual Sky Harbor Invitational Golf Tournament in Phoenix, Arizona held on December 1, 2006. The fundraising efforts were a joint partnership between HMSHost and Marriott International.

The event hosted over 400 golfers this year who took part in a series of fundraising events throughout the tournament. Over the last 20 years that HMSHost has hosted this event, more than \$4 million has been raised to serve the needs of the Phoenix area. The money raised this year is vital to Phoenix area children who suffer from life threatening illnesses and need specialized medical and surgical care that only facilities such as the Phoenix Children's Hospital can provide. In addition to medical services, the money will be dedicated to continued research and resources for children with autism, provided by The Southwest Autism Research and Resource Center.

"We appreciate HMSHost's unwavering support of our mission of providing hope, healing and the best health care for children and families," said Robert L. Meyer, President and CEO, Phoenix Children's Hospital. "Their annual giving to our facility enables us to provide children the best health care possible."



Patients treated at the Phoenix Children's Hospital

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“We continue to be committed to fundraisers such as the Sky Harbor Invitational Golf Tournament. We are glad that the money raised will provide specialized medical attention or access to research for children in the Phoenix area,” said Elie W. Maalouf, President and CEO of HMSHost.

Earlier this month HMSHost announced a holiday donation of \$10,000 for Bridging the Gap, aiding Kenya and Africa and another donation of \$76,000 to support the USO. In each of its locations, HMSHost works closely with the local community to support a wide array of important organizations that promote good works and community development.

About The Charities

Phoenix Children’s Hospital

As the local affiliate of Children’s Miracle Network, Phoenix Children’s Hospital is Arizona’s only hospital for children. A regional referral center for kids with life threatening illnesses, PCH offers highly specialized medical and surgical programs for children from birth through young adulthood. Their nationally acclaimed Child Life program uses specialists who ease children’s fears through therapeutic play and open discussion. They coordinate special events and programs that encourage social interaction and create a lively environment where kids can be kids. Everyone who works at Phoenix Children’s Hospital is devoted to one important mission: providing hope, healing and the very best care possible to children and their families.

Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center

The Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center (SARRC) is a nonprofit, community-based organization in Phoenix, Arizona, dedicated to research, education and resources for individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) and their families. SARRC undertakes self-directed research, serves as a satellite site for national and international projects, and provides up-to-date information, training and assistance to families and professionals about autism. Through integrative research, educational outreach, model programs and collaborative initiatives, SARRC sets forth, promotes and facilitates best practices for early intervention and the long-term care of individuals with ASDs.

About HMSHost

HMSHost is world-renowned for creating customized shopping and dining spaces in travel venues. The innovative company operates in more than 90 airport locations around the globe, including 19 of the 20 busiest airports in North America. HMSHost has annual sales in excess of \$2.0 billion and employs more than 26,000 associates worldwide.

A wholly-owned subsidiary of Autogrill S.p.A, HMSHost and the Autogrill Group are recognized leaders in travel amenities. With sales exceeding \$4.0 billion, Autogrill is present in 30 countries with over 4,500 points of sale in 979 locations (including 138 airports and 645 motorways) where 51,000 employees serve over 800 million customers every year.

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