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## **Health & Wealth Raffle Soars to New Heights with 15<sup>th</sup> Raffle This Fall**

*Community support provides critical funds to St. Joseph's Hospital and Barrow Neurological Institute*

PHOENIX (Thursday, Aug. 12, 2010) – Today, the Health & Wealth Raffle launches its 15<sup>th</sup> Raffle in support of St. Joseph's Hospital and Barrow Neurological Institute. Since 2003, the Health & Wealth Raffle has contributed \$50 million to research, medical education and patient care at the hospital.

“The beginning of the Raffle always creates a buzz of anticipation,” said Kathy Rice, executive director of the Health & Wealth Raffle. “I get to see firsthand the good this project does for the hospital, and the lives it touches. We are truly lucky to have community members who are so committed to supporting the Raffle and helping St. Joseph's grow.”

St. Joseph's is renowned for having one of the top-10 neuroscience centers in the United States (Barrow), the Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center for movement disorders, the first and one of only two trauma centers in Arizona with Level I verification from the American College of Surgeons, and the Valley's first Pediatric Heart Transplant Center. The Health & Wealth Raffle contributes funds to many of these programs and even provided start-up funding for the hospital's Lung Transplant Center, which has played a vital role in the lives of Arizona residents.

Geneva Prendergrast is a 26-year-old Valley woman whose life has been changed by St. Joseph's Lung Transplant Center. Cystic fibrosis caused Prendergrast's lungs to decline so rapidly that she was forced to stop working. Recently engaged, she worried that she might not have the energy to walk down the aisle on her wedding day. She had never been able to breathe normally, until she had a lung transplant at St. Joseph's in March of this year.

“The lung transplant is one of the greatest gifts I could ever receive,” said Prendergrast, “I can't explain how awesome it feels to be well.”

Support from the Raffle enables St. Joseph's to stay at the forefront of medicine and to continue helping residents like Prendergrast. Thanks to funding from the Raffle, several critical services and programs are on the horizon in Arizona, including a brain tumor research center and a center dedicated to exploring and expanding the use of deep brain stimulation.

The Health & Wealth Raffle provides the opportunity for Arizona residents to contribute to St. Joseph's and Barrow in exchange for a chance to win a prize. Since the Raffle's inception in 2003, more than 114,000 prizes have been given away, including 26 homes, 343 cars, 401 trips and more than \$14 million in cash.

“Everyone dreams of winning big,” said Kathy Rice, executive director of the Health & Wealth Raffle. “Whether it’s a home, car or vacation, players can feel good about having a one-in-18 chance of winning a prize and helping the hospital at the same time.”

### **Grand Prizes**

The Fall 2010 Raffle’s theme is *Soaring to New Heights*, which pays homage to both the fabulous prizes and top-notch hospital. This Raffle includes two incredible top prizes:

- Grand Prize #1: A million-dollar penthouse at ONE Lexington, the sleek high-rise located in the center of downtown Phoenix. Winner may also choose the cash prize of \$1 million.
- Grand Prize #2: His & Her Mercedes – A 2011 Mercedes E350 and a 2011 Mercedes R350, plus \$37,000 in cash. Winner may also choose the cash option of \$150,000.

### **Early Bird Prizes**

Raffle participants who enter before **midnight, Thursday, Sept. 2**, will be eligible to win one of two Early Bird prizes. In high demand, Early Bird tickets are popular because winners and non-winners alike will also be entered into the final draw of the Raffle.

- Early Bird Prize #1: A 2010 Lexus IS250 convertible and \$14,000 cash.
- Early Bird Prize #2: A 7-night Caribbean Cruise on the Norwegian EPIC Cruise Ship. Winner will receive a cruise vacation in one of the exclusive Deluxe Owner’s Suites, during its inaugural year. Airfare and \$6,000 cash included.

Early Bird winners will be drawn **Thursday, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>**.

### **Final Draw Prizes**

The Fall 2010 Raffle has more than 4,300 prizes, ranging from vehicles and electronics, to recreation items and trips of a lifetime. The cutoff for entry into the final draw is **midnight, Thursday, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>**. The final draw will take place **Thursday, Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>**.

### **Raffle Tickets**

To purchase tickets, please visit [www.HealthWealthRaffle.org](http://www.HealthWealthRaffle.org) or call toll-free **1-866-390-9034** – 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Entries also may be purchased at kiosks located at St. Joseph’s Hospital, 350 W. Thomas Road in Phoenix.

The Internal Revenue Service deems that both the \$100 and \$250 purchases are not tax deductible and corresponding taxes on prizes valued at \$5,000 or greater must be paid upon award and before receiving the prize.

### **Important Dates**

The most important dates to remember this Raffle season are as follows:

- Thursday, August 12<sup>th</sup> – Launch of the 15<sup>th</sup> season of the Health & Wealth Raffle
- Thursday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, at midnight – Early Bird Cutoff
- Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup> – Early Bird Draw
- Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, at midnight – Final Cutoff
- Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup> – Final Draw

**About the Health & Wealth Raffle**

The Health & Wealth Raffle is the first of its kind in Arizona and one of the largest fundraisers for St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center and Barrow Neurological Institute. Since its inception in 2003, the Raffle has served as a unique tool to raise much-needed funds in a short period of time. The biannual Raffle helps the hospital fund research, medical education, and patient care. To date, more than 114,000 prizes have been awarded to Raffle participants, including 26 homes, 401 trips, 343 vehicles and more than \$14 million cash. Whenever possible, prizes are purchased in the state of Arizona. Tickets are \$100 and must be purchased in the state, but participants do not have to be residents of Arizona to win. To learn more about the Health & Wealth Raffle or to enter, visit [www.HealthWealthRaffle.org](http://www.HealthWealthRaffle.org).

**About St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center and Barrow Neurological Institute:**

Located in the heart of Phoenix, Arizona, St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center is a 697-bed, not-for-profit hospital that provides a wide range of health, social, and support services with special advocacy for the poor and underserved. St. Joseph's is a nationally recognized center for quality tertiary care, medical education, and research. It includes the internationally renowned Barrow Neurological Institute, the Heart & Lung Institute, St. Joseph's Children's Health Center, the only Lung Transplant Center in the Valley, and one of only two Trauma Centers in the state of Arizona with Level I verification from the American College of Surgeons. The hospital is also a respected center for maternity care, orthopedics, oncology, and many other medical services. *U.S. News & World Report* routinely ranks St. Joseph's among the best hospitals in the United States for neurology and neurosurgery.