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Health & Wealth Raffle launches August 12th Proceeds to benefit St. Joseph's Hospital and Barrow Neurological Institute

*Prizes include \$1 million in cash, 17 vehicles, racing trips and more
Each ticket has a one-in-18 chance of winning a prize*

PHOENIX (August 6, 2009) – Excitement is in the air as organizers launch the Fall 2009 Health & Wealth Raffle **Wednesday, Aug. 12**. As one of the nation's largest and most innovative fundraisers, the Raffle raises much-needed funds to support patient care, medical education and research at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center and Barrow Neurological Institute.

The Fall 2009 Health & Wealth Raffle is expected to generate millions of dollars in net proceeds for St. Joseph's and Barrow.

Among the many St. Joseph's programs that have received Raffle funds is the Scott and Laura Eller Congenital Heart Center. Funding from the Health & Wealth Raffle has contributed to live-saving procedures at the center for patients like Madeline Mosqueda.

Madeline was born weighing one pound five ounces, the smallest baby ever delivered at Chandler Regional Medical Center. Shortly after birth, doctors discovered a heart murmur caused by a large ventricular septal defect (VSD), a hole in her heart. Madeline's doctors notified the heart specialists at the Scott and Laura Eller Congenital Heart Center at St. Joseph's, and Madeline began being closely monitored via telemedicine. She would need to gain weight before being transferred to St. Joseph's for surgery.

After 107 days, Madeline began suffering congestive heart failure, a side effect of VSD. She was transferred to St. Joseph's for open heart surgery. Pediatric cardiothoracic surgeons patched the abnormal opening between the infant's ventricles. Most surgical VSD repairs are done when the child is 10 to 15 pounds, but Madeline weighed just 6 pounds 9 ounces.

Madeline is now six months old and has been weaned off supplemental oxygen and all medications. She will continue to receive follow-up care at St. Joseph's.

Kathy Rice, manager of the Health & Wealth Raffle, hopes Madeline's story will help Arizonans understand that the Raffle makes winners of not only prize recipients but also patients at St. Joseph's and Barrow.

“The Health & Wealth Raffle is an amazing project,” she says. “It helps save the lives of patients like Madeline and provides Arizona residents with the chance to win incredible prizes.”

Grand Prizes

The Fall 2009 Raffle includes three top prizes:

- **Grand Prize #1** – \$1 million dollars.
- **Grand Prize #2** – A custom-built 2010 Bentley Continental GTC Speed, plus \$175,000 cash. Prize package value: more than \$400,000.
- **Grand Prize #3** – A 10-night French extravaganza for two, including the Le Mans 24-hour car race, Bordeaux wine country, Normandy and Paris, plus \$100,000 cash.

Early Bird Prize Packages

Raffle participants who enter before **midnight, Tuesday, Aug. 11**, are eligible to win one of two Early Bird Prize packages. Rice says the Early Bird Prize packages are a nice incentive to enter early because the two winning entries are entered back into the Raffle and remain eligible for the more than 5,600 prizes in the Final Draw.

Rice encourages participants to enter early. “Raffle fever really catches momentum in the two weeks leading up to the Early Bird cut-off, and there is a possibility of selling out,” she explains. “We don’t want anyone to miss out.”

The two Early Bird prize packages are:

- **Early Bird Prize #1** – A 2010 Mercedes-Benz GLK350, plus \$15,000 cash. Prize package value: more than \$55,000.
- **Early Bird Prize #2** – A seven-night cruise for two through Washington State’s wine country, plus \$25,000 cash. Prize package value: \$40,000.

Raffle Tickets

The number of Health & Wealth Raffle tickets is limited. A total of 98,000 entries are available, including 65,000 single tickets for \$100 each and 11,000 three-packs of tickets (three tickets for \$250).

Every Raffle ticket has a one-in-18 chance of winning a prize.

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

Important Raffle Dates

Key dates for the Fall 2009 Raffle include:

- **Midnight, Wednesday, Sept. 2** – cut-off to purchase tickets for the Early Bird Prize Draw
- Thursday, Sept. 10 – Early Bird Prize Draw
- Midnight, Wednesday, Sept. 30 – cut-off to purchase tickets for the Final Prize Draw
- Thursday, Oct. 8 – Final Prize Draw

In the event that all tickets are sold by the Early Bird cut-off date, the draw for more than 5,600 prizes will take place Thursday, Sept. 10.

How to Enter

To purchase tickets, please visit 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.

About 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 enables the hospital to fund research, medical education, and patient care. To date, more than 104,000 prizes have been awarded to Raffle participants, including 24 homes, 337 trips, and more than 389 vehicles. 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.

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 743-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.