

NEWS RELEASE



Date: February 9, 2010
For Release: Immediately
Contact: Colleen Mallon
708-995-3512
cmallon@pillarscommunity.org

2010 PILLARS BALL: Agency's Gala Surpasses All Expectations

LAGRANGE PARK, IL – Pillars welcomed over 500 guests to The Westin in Lombard on January 23rd for the agency's largest annual fundraiser. The Parisian themed evening, which boasted a 14-foot-tall Eiffel Tower and live auction prizes which ranged from a trip to see the *America's Got Talent* season finale to a trip to Le Cordon Bleu in Paris, raised over \$200,000 for the mental health and social service agency's many programs.

"During a time when the instability of the economy is matched by an inconsistent flow of state funding, we were hopeful that this year the Ball would generate additional funds to support the work we do with our clients," said John W. Shustitzky, Ph.D., Pillars President and Chief Executive Officer. "The evening surpassed all expectations, as we are once again awed by the generosity of the Pillars' community."

"The Pillars Ball offered our community the opportunity to stand together, as we gave voice to those most vulnerable, the clients that Pillars serves everyday," said Zada Clarke, Pillars Board Member and Ball Committee Chair. "We are inspired by the evening's success, and look forward to the 2011 Pillars Ball!"

Community, business and civic leaders were also on hand to enjoy a three-course dinner, casino style gaming and a silent, live and paddle auction, as well as the opportunity to win raffle prizes which included use of a private yacht, a \$1,000 piece of jewelry and a flat screen TV.

###

Pillars Community Services and Community Care Options merged in 2006 to form Pillars, one of the Chicago area's most notable nonprofit social service organizations. Pillars serves 36 communities in the west and southwest suburbs, and Chicago's Midway Airport neighborhood. Pillars programs and services include: Head Start and early childhood programming, behavioral health care including substance abuse/addiction services, mental health care, LaGrange Area Transitional Housing, domestic violence services, and bereavement support. To find out more about these and additional services, please visit the Pillars website at www.pillarscommunity.org.

ATTACHED IMAGE CAPTION: (from Left) President and CEO John W. Shustitzky, Ph.D., Ball Chair Zada Clarke, VP of Advancement Heather Higgins Alderman, Chair of the Board Margie Morris