

NEWS RELEASE



Date: January 6, 2010
For Release: Immediately
Contact: Colleen Mallon
708- 995-3512
cmallon@pillarscommunity.org

PILLARS: Courtright's Named Honorary Co-Chairs of Pillars Ball 2010

LAGRANGE PARK, IL – Pillars and philanthropic community leaders William and Rebecca Courtright will join forces on January 23, 2010 when the Courtright's serve as honorary co-chairs of the 2010 Pillars Ball. This latest endeavor celebrates nearly a quarter century of advocacy and fund-raising efforts by the Courtright's, on behalf of Pillars and its predecessor agencies.

The Phoenix Society, a fundraising and advocacy group, was the brain child of Helen Sauer Brown, a former Resource Development Director for the agency. In 1986, Bill and Becky accepted Brown's challenge to make the Society a reality. By the spring of 1987, the Courtright's had recruited numerous community leaders to join the Phoenix Society and the fun and fundraising began. The Phoenix Ball, the Society's annual signature event, was a glittering forerunner to Pillars current fabulous gala, the Pillars Ball. Through mergers and name changes Bill and Becky Courtright continued to support the work of the agency, including recent donations of outstanding dining experiences at their award winning restaurant in Willow Springs, which is a favorite live auction item at the Pillars Ball.

"The Courtright's' contribution to our agency simply cannot be quantified" said Heather Higgins Alderman, Vice President of Advancement, External Affairs and General Counsel at Pillars. "The Phoenix Society laid the foundation for so much of the fundraising we do today and many of the community members they connected to the agency continue to support us. That is really a testament to the Courtright's' passion and commitment to the vital work of our staff, and their ability to communicate that passion in a way that has inspired so many other people."

"We are truly grateful for their continued partnership, and are delighted they are the Honorary Co-Chairs of this year's ball."

The 2010 Pillars Ball will be held at The Westin in Lombard on January 23, 2010, from 6pm - Midnight. The Ball will include dinner, casino style gaming, and both a live and silent auction – all to raise funds for the vital services Pillars provides. To purchase tickets visit www.pillarscommunity.org.

###

Pillars Community Services and Community Care Options merged in 2006 to form Pillars, one of Chicago area's most notable nonprofit social service organizations. Pillars serves 36 communities in the west and southwest suburbs, Chicago's Midway Airport neighborhood and Chicago's west side. 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.