

March 30, 2009

PRESS RELEASE



BROOKWOOD FUNDRAISER HELPS PROVIDE BETTER LIFE FOR ADULTS WITH FUNCTIONAL DISABILITIES

- "An Evening in the Garden" brings in more than \$330,000 -

HOUSTON & BROOKSHIRE, TX, March 30, 2009 – The Brookwood Community, a nationally and internationally acclaimed model community for adults with functional disabilities, is pleased to announce the success of its fundraiser, "An Evening in the Garden", at the River Oaks Country Club in Houston last Wednesday evening, March 25th.

The \$330,000 raised from the event will enable Brookwood to continue providing its Citizens the opportunity for a better life.

"We are thrilled with the attendance and generous contributions Brookwood received through this fundraiser," said Kay House, co-chair of the event. "Since Brookwood's inception in 1985, the organization has not relied on or accepted government funding, but rather Brookwood has been supported solely by individual and corporate donations, the families of Brookwood Citizens and the revenue generated through Brookwood's enterprises.

Co-chairs Mollie Castaneda, Mindy Hildebrand and Kay House welcomed more than 350 Houstonians and Brookwoodians to the beautifully decorated ballroom where they were treated to a special appearance by the Brookwood Handbell Choir, fabulous fare inspired by the Café at Brookwood and a poignant multi-media presentation, "Brookwood – Where the Spirit Soars", by photographers Karen Sachar and Terry Vine.

Following dinner, Steve Beasley, Member of the Brookwood Community Board of Directors, took the stage to recognize the visionaries that founded Brookwood and pay "Tribute to the Legacy". Among those being honored were founders Yvonne and David Streit, early advisors Jack Trotter, Jack Blanton, and the late Randy Smith, philanthropies including The Fondren Foundation and The William Stamps Farish Fund, and corporate supporters such as Vinson & Elkins, L.L.P.

- more -

“By paying tribute to the legacy of our honorees, we hope to inspire the next generation to carry the torch so that thousands more will have the opportunity to not only have a better life but also to thrive socially, spiritually and through their work.” said Steve Beasley.

Seated among the 32 tables of guests were Cynthia and Anthony Petrello, Francie and Jim Crane, Elizabeth and Anthony DeLuca, Celina and Alfredo Brenner, Ginger Blanton, Elizabeth Wareing, and Don and Susie Evans, former Michigan Governor John and Michelle Engler, Carson and Arthur Seeligson, and Kathleen and Townes Pressler.

About The Brookwood Community

The Brookwood Community is a God-centered educational, residential, and entrepreneurial community for adults with functional disabilities located in Brookshire, Texas, just west of Houston.

Mission-spirited teachers work with the Brookwood citizens to provide an environment of supervised independence. Residents live meaningful lives by working in Brookwood's enterprises, taking on responsibilities that not only help themselves but also their fellow citizens, feeling a sense of pride and accomplishment from being productive, and developing and maintaining relationships with friends and colleagues.

Brookwood demonstrates that with God's help, all people have a contribution to make to society if given the opportunity. Brookwood provides opportunities to live, to learn, to work, and to play.

- xxx -

Media Contacts:

Pamela Griffin
+1 713 444 6409
pamela@griffinglobal.net

Joe Mazzu
+1 281 375 2100
mazzu@brookwoodcommunity.org