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NIGHT TO END HUNGER CELEBRATES LOAVES & FISHES' CAMPAIGN LAUNCH IN STYLE

ELBURN, Ill., June 28, 2014 – Sustainability was the word of the evening, when guests dined on organic farm to table fare as they helped to sustain the work of Loaves & Fishes Community Services at its Night to End Hunger fundraiser held at Heritage Prairie Farm in Elburn, IL. After kicking off a new era in its organization's 30-year history at Day Without Hunger two weeks earlier, Loaves & Fishes gathered high-profile community members in a setting that combined simple, sustainable living with beauty and luxury.

"Heritage Prairie Farm was the ideal location for this event," said Celeste Wagner, Loaves & Fishes Board Member and of Night to End Hunger Chair. "Our guests were able to experience this unique farm, which cultivates great life experiences through food, while benefiting Loaves & Fishes, which provides food and services to change our neighbors' lives for the better. It was a perfect collaboration."

The night was a huge success for Loaves & Fishes, raising \$267,650. The proceeds will greatly impact its multi-faceted programs that seek to end hunger and empower lives in the western suburbs of Chicago. Moreover, it will bring its Power of Community campaign year-to-date total to \$3,558,283, which represents 59% of the \$6 million goal. The Power of Community campaign, which is Loaves & Fishes' first-ever public fundraising campaign, will help the organization to achieve its strategic goals as well as engage community members in its essential work.

Whether soaking up breathtaking views, feasting on fine organic dining or enjoying live music, guest engagement was the catalyst for the success of Night to End Hunger. Individuals and local businesses donated items including lavish getaway packages, appetizing dinner pairings and even activities for thrill-seekers, such as a fighter jet ride and fleet car experience that were featured in a live auction and choice raffle. After these items were purchased and won, auctioneer Bart Darfler rallied donations through a "Raise the Paddle" special appeal, which alone raised \$63,250.

"It is truly inspiring," said Charles McLimans, President & CEO at Loaves & Fishes. "We are an organization that depends on our community to advance our mission, and within the past few months, we have seen increased involvement from new and existing supporters, which has boosted our ability to serve. As the need for our programs continues to grow, our community must work together to empower our low-income neighbors, and Night to End Hunger is an excellent demonstration of that partnership."

Loaves & Fishes is located at 1871 High Grove Lane, Naperville and provides multi-faceted programs, such as job search support, food assistance, skill-based classes and public benefit assistance, to low-income, west suburban residents. Learn more about getting help, making a donation, or volunteering at <http://www.loaves-fishes.org>.

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