



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer Hosts
Its Annual Board Appreciation Reception and Installation Ceremony**

DDF welcomes nine distinguished board members to contribute to its mission of raising awareness of stomach cancer and funds for research

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. – (August 1, 2017) – Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer (DDF) hosted its annual Board Appreciation Reception and Installation Ceremony on July 13 at the BB&T - Fort Lauderdale Main Branch. The ceremony was held to induct a new class of influential professionals from across South Florida to serve on the Board of Directors for DDF.

The reception included hors d'oeuvres and a meet and greet, followed by a ceremony recognizing current and incoming DDF board members. The newly installed members include Elizabeth Gassew, RN, patient navigator at Westside Regional Medical Center; Michael Geller, MS-MIS, principal engineer at Cisco; Linda Gendler, philanthropist; Gigi Giusti, sales manager for new development projects at Douglas Elliman Las Olas; Sarah Janvier, MHA, regional service line manager at Tenet Healthcare; Clay Rusch, CPA, financial advisor at Omni Financial Services; Noemi Sanchez, director of market development at Vitas Healthcare; and Charles Snyder, MA, MFA, director of prospect management and advancement research at Nova Southeastern University. Each board member serves a two-year term advising, governing, overseeing policy and direction, and assisting with leadership and general promotion of DDF as to support the organization's mission.

"I have always looked for opportunities to help serve my community, but when I found DDF I realized that this was a chance to not only make an impact in my local community but also with those who are impacted by stomach cancer globally," said DDF Board Member Clay Rusch. "I sometimes take for granted my own health and opportunities and by working with DDF I have come to appreciate the struggles that those with stomach cancer deal with on a daily basis. Not only that, Debbie is a true inspiration for those not only going through the struggle that is stomach cancer, but also to those who might be struggling with something else and think 'If she can do it, then so can I.'"

For more information about DDF, visit <http://www.DebbiesDream.org> or call (954) 475-1200.

About Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer

Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer (DDF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness about stomach cancer, advancing funding for research, and providing education and support internationally to patients, families, and caregivers. Debbie's Dream Foundation seeks as its ultimate goal to make the cure for stomach cancer a reality.

DDF was founded in 2009 by Debbie Zelman after she was diagnosed with stage IV incurable

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stomach cancer in 2008 and given only weeks to live. DDF now has a Medical Advisory Board of world renowned doctors and has chapters throughout the United States and also in Canada and Germany. Considered a “Super Survivor,” Debbie is still receiving chemotherapy 9 years later and is thrilled to be able to watch her three children grow up. To learn more about DDF, please visit us at www.DebbiesDream.org.



Photo One: New DDF Board Members Elizabeth Gassew, Noemi Sanchez, Gigi Giusti, Linda Gendler, Clay Rusch, Charles Synder, and Michael Geller



Photo Two: New DDF Board Members Gigi Giusti, Linda Gendler, Noemi Sanchez, Charles Snyder, Clay Rusch, Michael Geller, and Liz Gassew being sworn in by DDF Vice President Michael Ehren, and Susan Snyder (seated)

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