



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Debbie's Dream Foundation Honors Legacy of Founder Debbie Zelman At Sold Out 9th Annual Night of Laughter

DDF Raises More Than \$73,000 for Stomach Cancer Research Through Comedy

Davie, Florida – (February 15, 2018) – Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer (DDF) hosted a sold-out show of more than 400 guests and raised more than \$73,000 for stomach cancer research at its ninth annual Night of Laughter. The event was held at the Signature Grand in Davie, Florida on Sunday, January 28, 2018 and is the first event since the passing of DDF's founder, Debbie Zelman, who survived nearly a decade with stage IV stomach cancer. The night consisted of a heartfelt tribute to Debbie followed by an amazing raffle, a delicious buffet dinner, and a hilarious comedy show starring stand-up comedians Flip Schultz and Allison Weber.

To set the tone for the evening, DDF Executive Director Andrea Eidelman welcomed President of the Board of Directors Michael Ehren to the stage to address public concerns about the organization's plans to continue the mission to find a cure for stomach cancer. "There's been some talk and some questions of whether DDF will still be here now—will we still go on?" said Ehren. "The answer is absolutely, yes. It's critical to remember that Debbie did not lose her battle with stomach cancer. She beat cancer every day, 365 days a year, for almost ten years, and we will bring that same tenacity—that same passion that she brought every day in working to make her dream a reality going forward."

This year's event was made possible by co-chairs Sheri Albert, who has led the Night of Laughter for the past seven years, Mitchell Starr, Dr. Stephanie Davis, and their amazing committee. The National Title Sponsor for the evening was Lilly Oncology and the Laugh Out Loud Sponsors were Bienenfeld, Lasek & Starr, LLC, Carrie and David Schulman, and Anthony Corbo DDS Cosmetic and Reconstruction Dentistry.

"This was our most successful Night of Laughter thanks to the support of our community and the generosity of our event sponsors," said co-chair Mitchell Starr. "This showing of support is proof that Debbie's Dream will live on as we raise the much needed funds and awareness to help find a cure."

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 gastric 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 gastric cancer in 2008 and given only weeks to live. Debbie is considered a pioneer by many for bringing awareness to the plight of stomach cancer patients worldwide, and the lack of federal

funding for stomach cancer research. She did all of this while receiving hundreds of rounds of chemo, in addition to daily oral treatments. Debbie passed away on December 23, 2017 at the age of 50, almost a decade later. As a result of her leadership, DDF now has a Scientific and Medical Advisory Board of world-renowned doctors and chapters throughout the United States and in Canada and Germany. DDF strives to continue Debbie's mission to make her dream come true. To learn more about DDF, please visit us at www.DebbiesDream.org.



Photo One: Event Co-Chairs Dr. Stephanie Davis, Mitchell Starr, Sheri Albert, and Abby Renbarger and Eric Saunders of National Title Sponsor Lilly Oncology.



Photo Two Option: DDF President Michael Ehren addressing crowd of more than 400 attendees at the 9th Annual Night of Laughter

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