



NEWS RELEASE

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ATHLETES ROLL THE DICE FOR ORANGE COUNTY'S KIDS

Athletes and Their Wives Unite Against Child Abuse

Orange, CA – January 14, 2009 – Generosity and a great cause were the combination for another successful “Athletes and Aces” Casino Night, created by the Wives of Professional Athletes, a support group of the Child Abuse Prevention Center. Newport Lexus hosted this unique event on January 10, 2009, attracting 175 guests and raising more than \$40,000 for the Child Abuse Prevention Center.

Orange County’s own Anaheim Ducks and the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim showed up in support of the Child Abuse Prevention Center, leading the athlete involvement for the evening. Athletes in attendance included current NHL players, Jean-Sebastien Giguere, Sammy Pahlsson, Teemu Selanne, Major League Baseball’s Darin Erstad, John Lackey, Robb Nen, Adam Kennedy, in addition to the NFL’s Christian Okoye, Rob Johnson and many more!

“The Anaheim Ducks & Honda Center are proud to support the Wives of Professional Athletes and the Athletes and Aces event once again this year,” commented Wendy Yamagishi the Director of Community Relations and Public Affairs for the Anaheim Ducks and Honda Center. “Community involvement is a top priority for our organizations and that includes the wives of our players. We applaud their efforts and the work of all of the wives to put together another great event.”

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ATHLETE WIVES PREVENT CHILD ABUSE

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Plentiful silent and live auctions tempted guests with autographed memorabilia, spa packages, trips to Chicago and New York as well as a spectacular Las Vegas golf experience at the Butch Harmon School of Golf, courtesy of Don Callahan. Everyone was on hand as the top live auction item, an all expense paid trip to New York, was auctioned off twice for \$4,000 each.

Aided by the event's main sponsors, the Anaheim Ducks/Honda Center and Shulman Hodges & Bastian LLP, everyone had a chance to participate in the casino entertainment, including Texas Hold'Em, blackjack, roulette and craps, and enter into the evening's opportunity drawing. In addition, guests could enjoy the progressive hors d'oeuvres service, catered by Hanna's Restaurant in Rancho Santa Margarita, which included braised short ribs, a mash potato martini bar, ahi tostadas, roasted butternut squash chipotle soup, a chocolate fountain and more.

"This event is really about helping others in need," said WPA committee member Dana Johnson, whose husband Rob played football for USC and 10 seasons in the NFL. "Rob and I choose to help the Child Abuse Prevention Center because Child Abuse is something that we simply can not turn our backs on. I just hope that through the Prevention Center, mothers/families can get the education they need to be the best they can be and provide for their children in the best way possible."

The Child Abuse Prevention Center is dedicated to serving at-risk children and families with programs that break the generational cycle of child abuse and family violence. The Prevention Center's early intervention programs have well-documented records of strengthening and improving parent-child relationships and working to prevent abuse before it occurs. Since 1983, the Prevention Center has served more than 190,000 Orange County residents – including 15,000 children, 3,800 parents and 4,300 families in the last year alone. For additional information, please visit the Prevention Center's web site at www.BrightFutures4Kids.org.

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