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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Little City's 'Night on the Red Carpet' draws rave reviews for third straight year

Palatine, IL, Feb. 26, 2009 – While “Slum Dog Millionaire,” Sean Penn and Kate Winslet were garnering the most coveted Oscars for 2009, more than 250 friends, family and supporters of Little City Foundation were enjoying their own celebration at the “Night on the Red Carpet.”

Little City's Oscar party was a smash hit for the third year in a row, as guests joined in the food, fun and other special festivities during the Feb. 22 event, which was held at the Lincolnshire Marriott Resort. The fundraiser raised more than \$60,000 for Little City.

The evening's celebration began at 6:30 p.m. with a “Red Carpet Review,” where guests were interviewed by a Joan Rivers lookalike. “Cher” also made a guest appearance later in the evening, bringing a lot of laughs from the audience with her “leggy” look.

All of the fun activities were captured by paparazzi clicking away on their cameras. To view the photos from the evening, go to Little City's website at www.littlecitcity.org.

As part of the evening's events, a special proclamation was presented to Alex Gianaras of Lake Forest in honor of his father, Alec K. Gianaras, who was a longtime President of Little City's Board of Directors. Mr. Gianaras recently passed away, and Little City announced at the event that the organization would be naming a new award in his memory. The award will be given for the first time at Little City's 50th Anniversary Dinner next November.

Night on the Red Carpet guests also had a chance to purchase special silent auction items, including weekend packages and paintings by artists of Little City.

The big raffle for the evening went to Gail Dooley of Chicago, who won a mink jacket. Other top raffle winners were Jackie Sondell of Northbrook, who won a diamond heart necklace, and Kathy McGrath of Crystal Lake, who won a diamond pearl necklace.

Jackie Sondell also was the winner of the “Pick the Oscar Winners” contest. For her efforts, Jackie received a pass for a year's worth of movies along with a luxury chocolate gift basket. Taking second in the contest was Carole Bellows of Wilmette, while Andrea Hockfield of Long Grove placed third. Both received an Academy Awards Memorabilia Book. Fourth place went to Barb Jeffers of St. Charles, who won a handcrafted photo album from The Stationary Station.

For the third straight year, Wachovia Securities was the presenting sponsor for the gala, which was co-chaired by Little City Board members Rob Samson and Dana Gerber Poncher, both of Deerfield. Other major sponsors for the Night on the Red Carpet were Lawson Products, Foodstuffs, Jimmy and Eleni Bousis, Jay Garber, Rogers and Hollands Jewelers, Athena Sarris and Eleni Tzotzolis.

Other committee members who created a great evening of entertainment were Eve Albert, Eleni Bousis, Neil Cooper, Devra Gerber, Jeff Lyon, Charlie Margolis, Lisa Neimann, Julia Rendon, Julie Samson, Kaye Seeber and Homero Tristan.

About Little City

Established in 1959, Little City Foundation is committed to developing innovative and personalized programs to fully assist and empower people with disabilities in all stages of life. Little City offers a variety of residential options for children and adults, as well as vocational and employment opportunities. Programs and services include a special needs foster care and adoption program; in-home support to families raising a child with developmental disabilities; a full complement of recreational activities, including Special Olympics competition; and an award-winning Center for the Arts program that features visual, performance, media and fabric arts. The organization has a 56-acre campus in Palatine and offices in Chicago.