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Star-Studded Gala Raises More Than \$225,000 for UCP Children

Orlando, Fla. - More than 600 guests spent “An Evening at the Palace” rubbing elbows with some of Orlando’s most important people while helping raise more than \$225,000 for children with special needs. Hosted by United Cerebral Palsy of Central Florida, guests showed their support by bidding on top dollar items ranging from a walk-on part for a television show to a trip for four to Italy. Aside from the items guests could take home with them, they also had the chance to pay for a week of therapy – valued at \$675.

In addition to raising funds, UCP also presented Lisa Geyer and Circle K Convenience Stores with the 2006 Jack Holloway star of Gratitude Award for its decades of service. Since 1984, Lisa and the Race Coast Division of Circle K have raised more than \$4 million for UCP of Central Florida. And in 2005, they raised more than \$400,000 through canister collections and special events which benefited children with disabilities in the greater Orlando area.

Organized by Jackie and Charles Bailes, guests included: Orange County Commissioner Bob Sindler, philanthropists Hy and Harriett Lake, Marilyn Mennello, Harvey and Carol Massey, and Tom Yochum. Also in attendance were Emmy nominated actress Cheryl Hines and Broadway star Davis Gaines. Lauren Rowe, WKMG Local 6 news anchor, served as MC.

Founded in 1955, UCP of Central Florida, a non-profit organization, operates six child development centers in Central Florida for children with all types of disabilities and developmental delays resulting from a variety of conditions, including cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, spina bifida, autism, and others.

For more information on UCP or to make a donation, call (407) 852-3300 or visit www.ucpfl.org.

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