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Circle of Concern's 50th Anniversary Gala a Success

Valley Park, Mo., November 6, 2017 . . . Circle of Concern Food Pantry in Valley Park held its first ever gala event to commemorate its 50th Anniversary, and raised over \$100,000.00 for client programs and equipment needs. Nearly 300 guests and volunteers gathered at Forest Hills Country Club on Saturday evening, November 4. "We were just amazed by the generosity and good will felt throughout the ballroom that evening," says Executive Director, Cyndi Miller.

Current Board President, Steve Ernst, along with his wife, Debbie Ernst co-chaired the event. KSDK's "5 on Your Side" Ryan and Dana Dean emceed the event. Members of The Original Knights of Swing, along with KMOX Radio's Maria Keena performed jazz favorites for the crowd.

Award-winning auctioneer Shannon Mays spurred guests on in an exciting live auction and fund-a-need effort. Among the auction items were a week's stay in Destin, Florida, a Valentine's Day getaway to Nashville, and a one-of-a-kind, hand-made electric guitar.

Lead sponsors of the event were Maritz, Emerson and West Newsmagazine. Other sponsors included Lumiere Place, Brown Smith Wallace, California Custom Decks, Inc., Carol House Furniture, FirstBank, Gabriel Group, Harry and Gail LeMay, McKelvey Homes, Morgan Stanley, Missouri State Representative District 99, Phillip Nalbone, The Rotary Club of West St. Louis County, Siesennop Properties, TJX Foundation, The Wildwood Lion's Club, Woodlawn Chapel Presbyterian Church and Zieba Family Dentistry.

Circle Of Concern is a food pantry and social services agency serving low-income families in West St. Louis County. The organization serves 1200 households annually and offers wholesome foods, emergency financial assistance, scholarships, career mentoring, counseling, children's programs and holiday events, helping to stabilize struggling families while supporting them in their work toward independence.