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For more information, contact:

Erika Bjork, Sr. Communications Manager

Work: 650.259.8506

Cell: 916.606.4554

Email: [ebjork@gatepath.com](mailto:ebjork@gatepath.com)

**The Great Gatepath Gala Raises Nearly Quarter Million for People with Disabilities**  
**The Hillsborough Auxiliary to Community Gatepath celebrates the agency's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary with black tie event and needed funds for adults and children with disabilities**

**BURLINGAME, Calif. (April 23, 2010)** – Approximately \$240,000 was raised during The Great Gatepath Gala held on Saturday, April 17, 2010 at The Peninsula Golf & Country Club in San Mateo, Calif. Proceeds directly benefitted Community Gatepath's services for children and adults with disabilities. The event celebrated Community Gatepath's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary and The Hillsborough Auxiliary's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

"With the change in the economy since 2008 we weren't sure what to expect" stated gala co-chair Jean Garcia. "We were thrilled to have raised so much for Community Gatepath and have high hopes that still more will come in during the upcoming weeks."

In celebration of Gatepath's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary, The Peninsula Golf & Country Club was transformed into a speakeasy including art deco décor, live jazz band, dance floor, cocktails and period attire. The evening's auction featured trips to Hawaii and Sun Valley, Idaho, but it was the Fund-A-Need that stole the spotlight raising \$45,000 in a matter of minutes. Bidding was led by a \$10,000 donation from former Auxiliary Chair and philanthropist Peggy Bort Jones and later matched by Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy.

The Great Gatepath Gala is one of the premier events in San Mateo and attended by prominent business leaders, politicians, philanthropists and celebrities. Notable attendees at the event included: Assemblyman Jerry Hill, Mayor Christine Krolik, Hillsborough Councilmember and Chairman of Hemming Morse Paul Regan, Hillsborough Councilmember John J. Fannon, philanthropist and former Auxiliary Chair Peggy Bort Jones, TV correspondent and broadcast personality Lora McLaughlin Peterson, President and Publisher of the San Mateo Times John Clinton and son of former Lieutenant Governor Leo McCarthy, Niall McCarthy. The event was co-chaired by Mayor Christine Krolik and Jeff Krolik and Yvonne and Niall McCarthy. Don Sanchez of KGO-TV served as Master of Ceremonies.

Images are available to the media upon request courtesy of Drew Altizer Photography and Community Gatepath. If you are a member of the media requesting images from the event, please contact Erika Bjork at [ebjork@gatepath.com](mailto:ebjork@gatepath.com). For more information or to make a donation to Community Gatepath, please visit [www.gatepath.com](http://www.gatepath.com).

*Continued page 2...*

Hillsborough Auxiliary galas have grossed over \$1.2 million in proceeds for Community Gatepath. The Auxiliary was founded in 1950 to support the efforts of Community Gatepath, known at the time as Children's Health Home. Mrs. Randolph Hearst served as its first president. The Auxiliary has a distinguished history filled with passion and caring for people with disabilities. Through events, their Resale Shop and other fundraising efforts, the Auxiliary has raised millions to support individuals with disabilities. Additionally, each year the Auxiliary brings cheer to the lives of Gatepath's participants by hosting an annual summer picnic and holiday party.

Community Gatepath fosters hope, dignity and independence among children and adults with disabilities. It is the largest provider of services for people with disabilities in San Mateo County. Over 8,300 individuals annually receive support or direct care through Community Gatepath and its life spectrum of services including: childhood early intervention, inclusive preschool, transition services, vocational training, social businesses, senior direct care and awareness. The Family Resource Center is housed at Gatepath's Niall P. McCarthy Center for Children & Families and Gatepath operates a partner program with First 5 California called "Watch Me Grow." Gatepath was founded on June 30, 1920 originally as the Preventorium; a live-in facility to care for and educate ill and malnourished children.

The event would not be possible without the generous support of the following sponsors: Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy; Mills-Peninsula Health Services; AAA; Peter Sortwell, Arborwell Professional Tree Management; Bailard, Inc.; Borel Private Bank & Trust Company; Carr, McClellan, Ingersoll, Thompson & Horn; CBIZ Insurance Services; Double Forte; First National Bank of Northern California; Fiduciary Trust International; Hemming Morse, Inc. and Wells Fargo.

The Great Gatepath Gala continues Community Gatepath's commitment to "*Turning Disabilities Into Possibilities.*"

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