



Hattie Larlham Foundation

9772 Diagonal Road
Mantua, Ohio 44255

(330) 274-2272 | (800) 233-8611
www.hattielarlham.org

Press Release

For Immediate Release July 24, 2020

Contact: Audrey Arend, Communications Officer, Hattie Larlham | Audrey.Arend@hattielarlham.org 330-840-6850

COVID-19 Prompts Postponement of Hattie Larlham's Annual Fundraising Gala

MANTUA, OH –Hattie Larlham executive leadership has announced the postponement of the organization's annual Circle of Caring auction and gala. The event, originally scheduled for October 24th to be held at the Embassy Suites Cleveland/Rockside in Independence, Ohio, will now be hosted on October 23, 2021. This decision comes as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated risks of mass gatherings. In lieu of the formal in-person event, the Hattie Larlham Foundation will engage its community of supporters through virtual fundraising channels.

"The decision to postpone the Circle of Caring event was made with thoughtful consideration of many factors, keeping the health and safety of our guests as our top priority," said Hattie Larlham Foundation Chief Development Officer Heather Lorenzon. "Even though we cannot gather together this year, we hope that those within our network of support will continue to engage with our fundraising efforts online. Their generosity, for which we are continually grateful, will ensure that, despite the challenges this year has presented, the children and adults with disabilities served by Hattie Larlham will continue to thrive in our care."

The 2020 Circle of Caring event was intended to honor two distinguished, long-time champions of Hattie Larlham, Bob and Mary Madden. Mr. and Mrs. Madden have graciously agreed to be recognized at the 2021 event and Hattie Larlham looks forward to the opportunity to honor the couple for their many years of support and advocacy.

The 2019 Circle of Caring gala and auction was attended by more than 200 people. The organization's marquee fundraiser, honoring Judge Joseph Giulitto, took place at Signature of Solon and was presented by OneDigital (formerly The Alpha Group). Hosted by WKYC-TV 3 Chief Meteorologist Betsy Kling, the event raised more than \$193,000 to support programs and services for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities served by Hattie Larlham.

###

About Hattie Larlham

Hattie Larlham creates opportunities for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to be active and valued members of their community. The Mantua-based nonprofit provides medical, residential, recreational and work-training services to 1,600 Northeast and Central Ohio people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. For more information, visit www.hattielarlham.org.