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Community Rallies Around Boys & Girls Clubs of King County \$985,000 Raised at Annual KidsAuction

SEATTLE (October 20, 2009) -- Boys & Girls Clubs of King County (BGCKC) successfully raised \$985,000 at the annual KidsAuction held at the Seattle Sheraton on Saturday, October 10, 2009. This surpassed the goal originally set for the event.

"We are humbled by this outpouring of support," stated Daniel Johnson, President and CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of King County. "Our Club kids are a priority and will continue to get the world class programs they deserve."

The support at this year's auction was nothing short of historic: Past Board member **Cary Falk** and his wife **Quynh** stunned the audience by leading with a \$50,000 commitment. This was followed by \$25,000 gifts from **Sue and Mike Raney** and **Peter and Tamara Musser**. The Raney's also spontaneously matched their entire table's gifts, making them our largest donors of the evening. When King County Council member **Jane Hague** came on stage to announce a \$50,000 match for every gift of \$1,000, there was immediately a sea of 66 bid cards in the air. This has never been seen in the 34-year history of this event.

KidsAuction is the organization's largest fundraiser, accounting for almost 16 percent of a \$6.4 million fundraising budget and approximately 7 percent of the \$13.7 million annual operating budget. Corporate sponsors covered the cost of the KidsAuction event so that every dollar raised in the room that evening went to Club programs and operating expenses. KidsAuction was presented by Regence. Other major sponsors: Microsoft, KeyBank, Starbucks, Lionfish Creative, Princess Cruises, McKinstry and Rainier Investment.

With 17,000 members, 13 full-service Clubs and 28 before- and after-school program sites BGCKC continues to thrive because of the community of King County. Each Boys & Girls Club location serves children 5-18 years old. A youth development strategy underlies all BGCKC programs and fosters a sense of belonging, competence, usefulness and builds self-esteem and self-confidence among Club members.

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About Boys & Girls Clubs of King County

Boys & Girls Clubs of King County exists to inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens. With 12 full-service Clubs and 25 before- and after-school program sites, the organization is one of the largest of its kind in the nation, serving 17,000 members annually. Program areas offered to youth include character and leadership development, education and career development, health and life skills, the arts, computer training and sports/fitness/recreation opportunities. For more information, visit www.positiveplace.org.