

FAMILIES FORWARD

DIGNITY • EMPOWERMENT • HOPE

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Families Forward's 32nd Annual Gala raises more than \$465,000 to help local families in crisis find safety and stability

*Families Forward honors Brookfield Residential and Tracie McCloskey
for their outstanding contributions to reduce homelessness in Orange County*

IRVINE, CALIF. (September 22, 2016) –

On Saturday, September 17, 2016, Families Forward attracted more than 450 guests to the Fairmont Hotel in Newport Beach to celebrate 32 years of service to local families in crisis. Guests were visibly moved as one of Families Forward's former families shared their very personal journey of losing their home and all their savings when both their jobs were eliminated unexpectedly after years of loyal service. With stable housing and support to search for new jobs, this family was able to build their life back one step at a time. This wonderful evening raised more than \$465,000 net to support local families just like this one, as they work to regain stability for their children again.

The 2016 Gala, "*An Evening of Hope*," featured two extraordinary honorees committed to reduce the number of homeless families in Orange County, Brookfield Residential and Tracie McCloskey.

Families Forward presented the ***Spirit of Community Award*** to Brookfield Residential for helping to increase the number of affordable homes in our local area with significant hours of donated expertise in design and planning, combined with daily onsite management.

Families Forward presented the ***Partner in Hope Award*** to Tracie McCloskey for influencing all aspects of Families Forward brand and presence over the last four years, which included contributing invaluable expertise in design and décor for both our Program Center and new homes to welcome families entering our housing program.

About Families Forward

Since 1984, Families Forward has worked with families to help them achieve self-sufficiency through housing, food, counseling, career coaching, education, and other support services. Operating with a guiding principal of support with accountability, last year Families Forward improved the lives of nearly 8,000 children and adults by providing safety-net services through the framework of our values: Dignity, Empowerment, Accountability, Community Spirit and Hope. For more information about Families Forward please contact us at 949-716-5858 or visit www.families-forward.org.



John O'Brien, Vice President of Housing, Brookfield Residential, Spirit of Community honoree pictured with Margie Wakeham, Executive Director Families Forward and Jack Stemper, Managing Director, First Foundation.



Richard McCloskey, Founder and Chairman, Tax & Financial Group, Newport Beach, pictured with his wife Tracie McCloskey, Partner in Hope honoree and Margie Wakeham, Executive Director.