



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** Beverly J. Morgan, APR  
[bmorgan@festivalofchildren.org](mailto:bmorgan@festivalofchildren.org)  
(949) 922 – 9343

## **FESTIVAL OF CHILDREN FOUNDATION BENEFIT RAISES \$150,309**

***Sanfilippo Estate in Illinois was site of Carousel of Possible Dreams fundraiser benefiting Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland & Northwest Indiana and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital***

**(Costa Mesa – August 9, 2013)** A European salon carousel built in 1890 housed at the Sanfilippo Estate in Barrington Hills, IL was the site of Costa Mesa-based Festival of Children Foundation's most recent "Carousel of Possible Dreams" fundraiser.

On Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, over 180 attendees, many of them Carousel riders, tested their fundraising prowess as they climbed aboard the 19<sup>th</sup> Century French carousel to raise \$150,309 for Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland & Northwest Indiana and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Daniella Guzman and Stefan Holt, co-anchors of NBC 5 Chicago's morning newscasts were the evening's emcees. They shared personal stories and encouraged the participants to go round and round and up and down, armed only with their cell phones, calling friends and contacts to solicit donations for the two organizations. Riders were not allowed off the carousel until they reached their individual fundraising goals.

"It was a nice intersection of friend-raising, fundraising, and people working together all at an unbelievable estate," added Doug Porter, CEO of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland & Northwest Indiana.

The Carousel of Possible Dreams is an innovative fundraiser of Festival of Children Foundation, a California-based nonprofit. The organization has hosted the carousel fundraisers throughout the U.S. for different children's charities since 2009. "The concept of the Carousel of Possible Dreams is at the heart of Festival of Children Foundation. It's about people coming together collaboratively to make a positive difference for kids. Festival of Children Foundation supports children's charities across the country, including some extraordinary organizations in the Chicago area," added Sandy Segerstrom Daniels, Founder and Executive Director of Festival of Children Foundation.

### **About Festival of Children Foundation**

Festival of Children Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization that serves to bring together and coordinate the efforts of charities, companies and individuals who actively work to improve the lives of children. Festival of Children Foundation gives a voice, guidance and support. 100% of the administrative costs are covered by designated funding, allowing donations to go further in direct support of programs and services that improve the lives of children. For more information visit [www.FestivalofChildren.org](http://www.FestivalofChildren.org).

###