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## For Immediate Release

### **AbilityFirst 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Gourmet Festival of Fall is a Success!**

SOUTH PASADENA, Calif. – On Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, AbilityFirst along with Presenting Sponsor Union Bank held its’ 39<sup>th</sup> annual Gourmet Festival of Fall. The event was graciously hosted at the beautiful home of Mary and Bill Urquhart. There were over 400 guests and the event raised more than \$160,000! All proceeds from the event will help fund programs and services for children and adults with disabilities at two of 25 locations throughout Southern California; AbilityFirst Lawrence L. Frank, and AbilityFirst Pasadena Work Center.

Chuck Henry was emcee at the event. A favorite co-anchor of KNBC4 news for many, Chuck Henry was joined by his wife Mrs. Kay Henry. Chuck Henry did a marvelous job as he engaged the audience during the live auction. With his charming and winning personality, Mr. Henry delighted the crowd.

Guest mingled as they enjoyed a variety of delicious food sponsored by over 30 restaurants & wineries from local Pasadena establishments. From cheese to lobster dumplings, there was quite a variety of tasty food to try. It was a spectacular evening of culinary delights and fine beverages with something for everyone satisfying all taste buds! This extraordinary evening was a sell-out and a big success thanks to all sponsors, guests and donors. “We were so pleased with the turnout and overall success of the event. This means so much to so many children and adults with disabilities that benefit from our programs and services offered at AbilityFirst,” said Lori Gangemi, President and CEO of AbilityFirst.

#### **About Ability First**

[AbilityFirst](#), formerly Crippled Children’s Society of Southern California, provides programs and services to help children and adults with disabilities reach their full potential. Through 25 [locations](#) across Southern California, they offer a broad range of employment, recreational and socialization [programs](#) as well as accessible residential housing complexes and an accessible camp, [Camp Paivika](#), for both children and adults.

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