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Scores Gather to Support INMED's Fight for Healthy Children and Bright Futures

MONDAY, 13 DECEMBER 2010 12:52 LEIGH MACDONALD

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Scores gathered recently for a Dinner for a Food Cause, an elegant dinner and silent auction at the beautiful Restaurant at Patowmack Farm in Lovettsville, VA. They were there to support INMED Partnerships for Children, a local organization that's making an international difference. INMED is a nonprofit development organization that rescues children around the world from immediate and irreversible harm and prepares them for a brighter future.



INMED was founded in 1986 by Dr. Linda Pfeiffer, a pioneer in the formation of collaborative and worldwide public-private partnerships. INMED focuses on underdeveloped areas and strives to make opportunities that inspire hope, build self-reliance, and encourage community collaboration for positive change. To do this, INMED uses a broad range of health, social, education, violence prevention, and community development programs. With projects presently in Los Angeles, Loudoun County, Brazil, Peru, Tobago, Jamaica, and South Africa, INMED and its team is dedicated to making a difference. And given the energy and determination that resides within this small, but powerful, organization, there's no doubt that INMED will continue to create change all around the world. Indeed, when I met Dr. Pfeiffer at the Dinner, she'd just flown in that morning after having worked in the field in South Africa.

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There, INMED and its partners are working—through the Healthy Futures South Africa program—to improve the nutritional status of approximately 10,600 school children ages 5-14 in the community of Orange Farm in Gauteng Province, which is near Johannesburg. In South Africa, many children receive just one meal per day, the one they get at school. By focusing on improving the nutritional traits of that singular daily meal, INMED is helping Orange Farm children and their families.

The Dinner for a Food Cause, as the event was dubbed, was a success thanks to the collaborative efforts of many. Beverly Morton Billand, owner of The Restaurant at Patowmack Farm, first envisioned the concept of offering up her farm's produce and restaurant for important philanthropic causes. Events like this one for INMED's benefit are all part of her vision for her farm and restaurant.



Likewise, the fare, which was an elegant five-course farm-to-table meal, was made possible through the volunteer efforts of local chefs through the Loudoun Area Chefs Collaborative. The participating chefs—Christopher Edwards (The Restaurant at Patowmack Farm), Aaron McCloud (Vintage Restaurant Group), Patrick Dinh (Tuscarora Mill), and Mark Morrocco (Magnolia's at The Mill Restaurant)—all volunteered their time for the Dinner. The evening's wait staff—all Vintage employees—also volunteered, and a myriad of beverages and wines were provided courtesy of Catocin Creek Distillery and Tarara Winery.



The Dinner's success was rooted in the collective philanthropic efforts of many. And that shouldn't be a surprise, I suppose, since INMED—the evening's beneficiary—operates on that very notion: craft meaningful change through smart and capable partnerships.

To learn more about INMED Partnerships for

His success starts from the very beginning...



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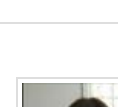
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