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**Saint Louis Crisis Nursery hosts annual
*Razzle Dazzle Masquerade Ball***

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ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI – The Saint Louis Crisis Nursery's annual Razzle Dazzle Masquerade Ball on Saturday, March 3, 2012, will raise funds to help families in crisis, and to prevent child abuse and neglect. Last year's 25th anniversary Razzle Dazzle Ball raised \$300,000.

The mask-optional Razzle Dazzle gala will be held at the Sheraton Westport Lakeside Chalet Hotel, 6:30 p.m., and will include cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, dinner, live and silent auctions, the HUGS & KISSES Awards, live music and dancing with Arvell and Company.

“We are honored that the St. Louis community has supported our mission to save babies’ lives, keep kids safe and build strong families for more than 25 years,” said Crisis Nursery CEO DiAnne Mueller. “This year, we’re celebrating with a masquerade ball.”

Robin Smith, Emmy Award Winning News Anchor at KMOV-TV, is Honorary Celebrity Chair of the annual event. The Master of Ceremonies, for the second year in a row, is the international comedian Buzz Sutherland, who has performed on HBO's “Comic Relief” and MTV's “Half Hour Comedy Hour.”

Tickets to the Razzle Dazzle Ball are \$150. Table Sponsorships range from \$2,000 to \$50,000. For tickets and sponsorship opportunities, contact Ebonee Shaw at ebonee@crisisnurserykids.com or (314) 292-5770.

Crisis Nursery will present their H.U.G.S. & K.I.S.S.E.S. awards to several volunteers and organizations that have supported Crisis Nursery and improved the quality of life for local children. Awardees include:

- Couple of the Year - Linda & Eric Gerhardt
- Distinguished Corporate Citizen - GKN Aerospace
- Young Professional Hero - David Malone

Don and Gretchen Gerber will sponsor the popular "Champagne & Diamond Extravaganza" with a grand prize of a one-carat diamond. Chances are \$25 and the winner of the diamond will be announced during the event.

The Presenting Sponsor for the evening is Centene Corporation. Major sponsors include BJC Healthcare, Edward Jones, Emerson, KMOV-TV, Monsanto, Shop 'n Save, Drs. James & Nanci Bobrow, Don & Gretchen Gerber, GKN Aerospace, Hardee's, and Missouri Baptist Hospital.

Other notable sponsors include Coca-Cola, Shea O'Toole & Darrell Davis, Scottrade, SSM-Cardinal Glennon, St. Louis Children's Hospital, The Boeing Company, James & Kimberly Wagner, Bancorp South, Phil & Angie Brandt, Carrollton Bank, Essex Dental Benefits, Exotic Motors Midwest, Hogan Trucking, Isle of Capri Casinos, Willie & Annie May, Steve & Sally Mitchell, Qwest Specialty Products and Rhodey Construction, Inc.

The Crisis Nursery fund raising chair is Roberta Cohen. The auction chair is Charlotte McClure. Event co-chairs are Doctors Nanci and James Bobrow, Janet and Larry Conners, Chalana and Lathon Ferguson, Ruth and Tim Hogenkamp, Joyce and Jeff Jackson, Elizabeth and Mark Niemeyer, and Kim and Jim Wagner.

Event Vice-Chairs include Jill Alexander, Lisa Parker, Melissa and Gaspare Calvaruso, Karen Prideaux, Millie Cain, Penny Rogers, Pam Duffy, Carissa and Senator Scott Rupp, Dan Fitter, Representative Jill Schupp, Teri Beth Gooch, Bill Siedhoff, Stephanie Hall, Phoong Tang and Christina Wilde.

The Saint Louis Crisis Nursery is committed to preventing child abuse and neglect by offering real help and real hope to families in crisis. The Crisis Nursery is an independent, not-for-profit agency providing short-term, safe havens for more than 7,300 children a year, birth through age 12, whose families are faced with an emergency or crisis. The Crisis Nursery provides care 24 hours a day, 365 days a year at five sites, serving families throughout the greater St. Louis, St. Charles, Southern Illinois and surrounding regions. Over the past 25 years, the Crisis Nursery has cared for more than 68,000 children, and provided support and counseling to more than 84,500 families. For details on the Crisis Nursery, call (314) 292-5770 or visit www.crisisnurserykids.org.

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Photo Caption:

KMOV-TV's Robin Smith and International Comedian Buzz Sutherland

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