

Chicago Tribune

Edward Foundation tops \$1 million in funds raised at annual gala!



Auctioneer David Goodman (left) encourages Kevin Connelly of St. Charles during the live auction at The Big Gig: Wonderland, the Edward Foundation's largest fundraiser of the year. (Posted by Edward-Elmhurst Healthcare, Community Contributor)

By Community Contributor Edward-Elmhurst Healthcare

The Edward Foundation raised a record \$1,035,000 at its 24th annual gala, The Big Gig: Wonderland, on Saturday, September 27 at The Westin Lombard. More than 800 people attended the event, which is the largest fundraiser of the year for the Foundation and supports Edward Hospital programs and services that directly impact patients.

The record amount included \$905,000 from tickets sold, sponsorships, auction items and packages, and paddle raise sales, plus a \$130,000 matching gift from the physicians of DuPage Neonatology Associates, DuPage Valley Anesthesiologists, Edward Emergency Department, Laboratory and Pathology Diagnostics, and Naperville Radiologists.

Charitable contributions to the Foundation help Edward invest in the most advanced diagnostic and treatment technology, recruit world-class medical professionals and deliver the highest quality care to almost 1.7 million patients within its reach.

A portion of the proceeds from this year's event will help fund the purchase of a 3T MRI System and expansion and renovation of Edward's current MRI space.

In recent years, Foundation funds have contributed to construction of a new 24-bed advanced Intensive Care Unit, expansion and renovation of the Newborn and Pediatric Intensive Care Units, the purchase of a second da Vinci robotic surgical system, the opening of the first Ronald McDonald Family Room in Illinois, a three-wing expansion of Linden Oaks at Edward, the opening of the western suburbs' first Hybrid Operating Room and the latest diagnostic technology for Edward's endoscopy lab.

The Foundation has raised more than \$35 million since 1990 in its mission to support Edward's community healthcare initiatives. To make a donation to or for more information about the Foundation, call (630) 527-3954 or visit www.edward.org/foundation.