

Media Release

Actors Colin Mochrie and Debra McGrath *Leave Them Laughing*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – October 25, 2010

On Thursday November 4, 2010 over 250 guests and supporters will join Oolagen Youth Mental Health for our *Leave Them Laughing* inaugural fundraising dinner.

The dinner at the Arcadian Court, 401 Bay Street Toronto will feature celebrity emcees, and husband and wife team, Colin Mochrie and Debra McGrath. As Oolagen's Patrons they are both deeply committed to helping raise awareness of Oolagen and the important work they do with at-risk youth and their families. With Deb and Colin in the house, it is sure to be a fun and memorable event.

At the event, **The Honourable James Bartleman**, the former Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, will be honoured with an award for his work in the area of mental health. For more than 40 years Oolagen, a youth mental health centre, has pioneered the development of innovative and cost-effective programs that help young people work through devastating issues that impede their success in school and in life. Some of the difficulties young people endure every day include violence in the home, sexual abuse, family pressures or gang violence. A University of Toronto teaching facility, Oolagen provides school-based mental health services, residential treatment, intensive services, out-patient counselling, programs for young mothers at risk and a walk-in clinic.

More About Oolagen (www.oolagen.org)

Oolagen is an accredited youth mental health centre located in downtown Toronto. Common issues that Oolagen helps youth deal with include physical and sexual abuse, school issues, violence, issues of grief and death, family conflict, separation and divorce, alcohol and drug misuse, depression, eating disorders, sexuality and suicidal and self-harming behaviours.

The hopes and aspirations of Oolagen are based on our vision for healthy relationships between youth and their families that recognize and build upon strengths, a community that works in partnership to enhance the social and emotional well being of its citizens, and a comprehensive, flexible service system that effectively responds to the challenging and diverse needs of the people we serve.

Oolagen's overhead costs are uniquely managed to remain below 10%, which means that over 90% of every dollar goes directly toward helping at-risk youth in Toronto.

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