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Contact: Dana Lopez, Communications & PR Manager

Phone: (516) 486-8506 Ext 138

E-mail: dlopez@the-inn.org

**NO ROOM AT THE INNKEEPERS' BALL
Annual event raises over \$1.2 million
to fight hunger and homelessness on Long Island**

Hempstead, NY (May 14, 2015) – The INN (Interfaith Nutrition Network) welcomed over 550 supporters at its largest annual fundraiser, the INNkeepers' Ball, raising over \$1.2 million to support its programs that serve the hungry and homeless population of Long Island. The event was the 29th annual of its kind for the agency.

The sold-out affair, which was held on May 7th at the Long Island Marriott in Uniondale, was also attended by 15 past honorees who continue to support the 32-year-old Hempstead-based organization. This year, they came together to honor 86-year-old entrepreneur Arnold Gumowitz and Maria Vullo, partner in the litigation department of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, with the 2015 Humanitarian of the Year Award. Gumowitz and Vullo are both long-time friends and supporters of The INN. Maria Regina R.C. Church in Seaford was also honored with the "Seven of Us" Award, for their 14-year commitment to The INN and its mission.

"We are grateful to everyone who helped make the 2015 INNkeepers' Ball a success," said Fran Gutleber, event Co-Chair. "Their dedication to our mission has assisted The INN in not only providing necessary funding, but community awareness as well as the means to grow."



L to R: Honoree Maria Vullo, Tom Scaturro, Honorary Event Chair, Jean Kelly, Executive Director of The INN, George Lyons, Maria Regina R.C. Church, Honoree Arnold Gumowitz and Rob Kammerer, INN Board Member and Event Co-Chair.



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ABOUT THE INN

The mission of *The INN* (Interfaith Nutrition Network) is to address the issues of hunger and homelessness on Long Island by providing food, shelter, long-term housing and supportive services in a dignified and respectful manner for those who seek the organization's help.

Founded in 1983 as a single soup kitchen run by a small group of concerned volunteers, *The INN*, a not-for-profit, volunteer-based organization, has grown to deliver its services through 14 soup kitchens in 21 locations, three homeless shelters, and a Long Term Housing Program consisting of 23 housing units for families and housing for up to seven veterans. Currently, more than 5,700 meals are served each week.

A dedicated staff, committed volunteers and broad-based community support help *The INN* maintain its position as one of Long Island's largest private social service agencies; *The INN* is ranked among the most cost-effective charities in the United States. For more information, please visit www.the-inn.org or call (516) 486-8506.

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