



SOS CHILDREN'S  
VILLAGES  
ILLINOIS

# PRESS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES ILLINOIS ROLLS OUT THE RED CARPET FOR ITS ANNUAL FUNDRAISING EVENT

*Black and white, glitz and glamour, bombshells and bomber jackets . . . "The Golden Age of Hollywood"*

**September 9, 2014 (Chicago, IL) – SOS Children's Villages Illinois**, a 501(c)3 child-welfare agency, rolls out the red carpet for its annual fall fundraiser, ***Evening of Hope 2014***, which will take place on **Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Venue One** (1044 W. Randolph, Chicago, IL). The event theme is the "Golden Age of Hollywood" with vintage-style décor and entertainment. All proceeds from the event will benefit the more than 200 children living on the Villages each year and another 250 children and families receiving services from SOS Children's Villages Illinois.

"In each Village and every home, the children in our care are overcoming struggles that quite literally change the course of their lives for the better," said CEO Tim McCormick. "Evening of Hope brings together an amazing community of support that understands the act of renewing hope in a broken life is no small feat. The greatest evidence that together we have done our job is seeing the smiles on our children's faces."

This year's event will feature cocktails, small-batch wine and craft beers, local cuisine, and live music. *Evening of Hope* is generously supported by both individuals and corporate partners. SOS Children's Villages Illinois is grateful for this year's Oscar-level sponsor, Parsons Brinckerhoff, as well as event underwriters, HNTB and Civcon Services, Inc. Also, delicious indulgences will be provided by Lagunitas beer, Hershey's Chicago desserts, Macallan and more.

"A very special highlight of this year's event will be recognizing six children as 'Stars of SOS'," said board member and event co-chair Kathleen Nelson. "Our Villages and the many that support us work to make a difference in each child's life. We are eager to raise even more money because every child who comes into our care deserves an opportunity to believe in a brighter future for him or herself."

### Organization Overview:

SOS Children's Villages Illinois is the premiere foster care agency in Illinois and currently operates three sites: two Villages providing sibling group foster care at an 18-home Village (opened in 1993) in Lockport, Illinois; and another 17-home Village (opened in 2004) in the Auburn Gresham, Englewood neighborhood of Chicago; as well as, Casa Tepeyac (acquired in 2011), located in the Back of the Yards neighborhood of Chicago, which is a short-term residential facility designed to assist at-risk male youth, ages 12-17.

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Expansion plans for a third Village are underway. The newest Village will consist of 14 homes in the Roosevelt Square community of Chicago and will open by the end of 2014.

SOS Children's Villages Illinois celebrates a 100% high school graduation rate, compared to a national average of 50% for children in foster care. Since 2006, SOS Children's Villages Illinois has received 7 consecutive 4-star evaluations from Charity Navigator. Only 2% of charities rated achieve this, indicating that SOS Children's Villages Illinois outperforms most other charities in America.

[For more information about SOS Children's Villages Illinois, please contact:](#)

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