



# *Michael Gerard Puharic Memorial Fund*

*501c3 non-profit corporation*

**www.michaelsfeat.org**

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## NEWS RELEASE

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## **11TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISER FOR MICHAEL'S FEAT TURNS INTO RECORD-SETTING EVENING FOR CHARITY**

Wall, New Jersey – Fresh off achieving \$1 million in donations in its first ten years of operation, the Michael Gerard Puharic Memorial Fund (Michael's Feat) Annual Gala Fundraiser on April 1 at the Battleground Country Club in Manalapan was a record-setting affair for the charity, raising just under \$90,000 through ticket sales, sponsorships, raffle and silent auction. Over 350 guests celebrated the start of the Fund's 11th year assisting families of seriously ill newborns in Monmouth and Ocean Counties.

This year's Honorary Chair of the Gala was Scott MacFadden, President-Public Engineering Division of Birdsall Services Group in Eatontown. Scott MacFadden has been a loyal supporter of Michael's Feat since the birth of his premie triplet grandchildren. Shereese Haymon from Asbury Park and McKenzie Pierre receive the honored family award. Michael's Feat assisted them following the birth of their son Noah in 2009 at 1 pound, 5 ounces. Haymon was recognized for overcoming her child's illness with grace, dignity and courage.

The Gala also kicked off two new fundraising goals. The first for the purchase of two NICU Knowledge units; one for Jersey Shore Medical Center and one Monmouth Medical Center. NICU Knowledge is a 24 hour information source for NICU patient families. NICU Knowledge contains hours of video, audio and graphics that address important topics in a warm and sensitive manner. Families interact with the touch screen educator to learn about the NICU and its



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methods of care. The first unit has already been delivered to Monmouth Medical Center and will be dedicated on Mother's Day.

The second fundraising goal is for the creation of a second "Michael's Feat Family Resource Room. This one will be located just outside the special care nursery at CentraState Medical Center in Freehold. This room will provide families with a comfortable "living room" away from home when parents visit their babies in the hospital. The prospect of being able to directly support all families that have an ill newborn at this large western Monmouth County hospital is very exciting.

Michael's Feat, a 501c3 non-profit organization, established to support, give comfort, and ease the burden for parents caring for seriously ill newborns in Monmouth and Ocean County, New Jersey. The fund was created in loving memory of Adam and Dana's newborn son, Michael, who lost his life to a serious chromosome disorder. Although he lived for just 83 hours, his legacy lives on through the hundreds of families helped through Michael's Feat over the past ten years.

For further information on Michael's Feat visit [www.michaelsfeat.org](http://www.michaelsfeat.org).

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