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Contact: Dana Lopez, Communications & PR Manager

Phone: (516) 486-8506 Ext 138

E-mail: [dlopez@the-inn.org](mailto:dlopez@the-inn.org)

**FULL HOUSE AT THE INNKEEPERS BALL:  
Sold-out event raises a record-breaking \$1.3 million  
to fight hunger and homelessness on Long Island**

Hempstead, NY (May 14, 2013) –The INN (Interfaith Nutrition Network) broke an event record at its largest annual fundraiser, the INNkeepers' Ball, raising over \$1.3 million to support its programs that serve the hungry and homeless population of Long Island. In its 28<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, the event record surpassed the 2012 total raised of just over \$1.2 million.

The sold-out affair, which was held on May 8<sup>th</sup> at the Long Island Marriott in Uniondale, was attended by over 630 friends and supporters of The INN. They came together to honor Peter Bheddah and Amy and John Hughes, who have supported the local organization for a combined total of nearly 25 years. Honorary Chair of the event, Fran Gutleber, helped The INN honor Bheddah, a prominent figure in the Indian community and Mr. & Mrs. Hughes, active community members and parents of Olympic Gold Medalist Sarah Hughes with the 2014 Humanitarian of the Year Award.

"We are grateful to everyone who helped make the 2014 INNkeepers' Ball a success", said Rob Kammerer, INN Board member and Ball Co-Chair. "We are especially grateful to our Honorees and Honorary Chair who were inspirational throughout the months of planning as well as on the night of the Ball. The support and awareness they raised is absolutely vital to The INN's mission."



**L to R: Rob Kammerer, INN Board Member and Event Co-Chair, Jean Kelly, Executive Director of The INN, Honorees John and Amy Hughes, Dorothy Bheddah, Honoree Peter Bheddah, Event Honorary Chair Fran Gutleber and INN Board of Directors President Harry DiSimone.**

## **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 5,000 people are fed 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](http://www.the-inn.org) or call (516) 486-8506.

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