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## NEWS RELEASE

### **Cindy Simon Skjodt chairs a fundraiser for cancer survivors**

### ***Comedic Legend Joan Rivers to headline “Laughing Matters” slated for March 20, 2010 at the Indiana Roof Ballroom***

**INDIANAPOLIS—January 8, 2010** —Cancer Support Community, formerly The Wellness Community-Central Indiana, a non-profit organization offering fee-free programs of support, education and hope for people with cancer and their loved ones, announced today Cindy Simon Skjodt will serve as honorary chairwoman for 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Laughing Matters charity event. The event committee includes last year’s honorary chair Lorene Burkhart. Joan Rivers has been confirmed as the comedic talent for the event.

Skjodt’s father Mel Simon was a founding donor and supporter of the Cancer Support Community when it was formed as The Wellness Community in 1995. Skjodt served on the board of trustees in its early years and remains a supporter today. “Cancer Support Community has done amazing work over the years; reaching thousands of people touched by cancer and helping individuals find hope at a very challenging time in their life. The mission of the organization is so powerful and I am thrilled to be involved with the organization and Laughing Matters 2010,” says Skjodt.

A merger of the national offices of two not-for-profits - The Wellness Community and Gilda’s Club - brought about the new name **“Cancer Support Community.”** The merger makes the new entity the largest provider of free psycho-social support for people affected by cancer in the world with over 50 affiliates worldwide, including the this local Cancer Support Community.

#### **About Laughing Matters**

The organization’s signature fundraising event features a comedian, dinner, cocktails and a silent auction. Joan Rivers, comedian, author, actor, and former Celebrity Apprentice contestant, has been confirmed to headline the Cancer Support Community’s comedy show.

Saturday, March 20, 2010

Indiana Roof Ballroom

6:30 p.m.

\$150 per ticket; “LOL” VIP Tables of 10 - \$1,800

Call 317-257-1505 to reserve tickets/tables

Gilda Radner joined the Wellness Community in Santa Monica, California in 1986 when she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. In 1987, the comedian and her friends began “Jokefests” to raise funds for The Wellness Community. Laughing Matters continues the tradition of Jokefests in Central Indiana.

The event is presented by Lilly; The Samaritan Foundation; and is sponsored by WXIN Fox 59, National Bank of Indianapolis, Ingersoll Rand, Fifth Third Bank; ArCapa; DeHayes Family Foundation; and Borshoff. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. For more information, contact Sara Anderson, chief operating officer, at 317-257-1505.

(more)

**About the Organization**

**Cancer Support Community (CSC)**, formerly The Wellness Community-Central Indiana, provides fee-free programs of psychological and emotional support, including support groups and stress management programs that have demonstrated increased quality of life for individuals and their families affected by cancer. CSC is not an alternative to medical treatment; it is an integral part of a comprehensive approach to treating cancer. Cancer Support Community operates from the *Paulsen Family Center for Cancer Support*, 5150 W. 71<sup>st</sup> St., Indianapolis. For more information and the programming schedule call The Cancer Support Community at 317-257-1505 or visit [www.twc-indy.org](http://www.twc-indy.org).

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