

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Signature Chefs Auction Brings Jackson, Tennessee
Top Restaurants Together in Support of Babies**
9th Annual March of Dimes Benefit

(Jackson, TN, September 16, 2010)— On Thursday, September 16, 2010 at the Holiday Inn, top chefs will offer West Tennessee area diners an opportunity to enjoy a great night out while raising funds, making friends and growing visibility for the critical work of the March of Dimes to help all babies be born healthy. In addition to sampling signature dishes, guests will be able to bid on many unique auction items graciously donated by West Tennessee businesses. The evening begins at 6:00 PM with a great display of food from participating chefs, silent and live auctions and an award presentation to our next recipient of the Dr. Donna-Jean Walker Award for Excellence in Maternal/Fetal Medicine.

“What better way to enjoy a wonderful meal than in the company of others who are helping babies get a healthy start in life,” said Dr. Lolly Eldridge, the 2010 Signature Chefs Co- chair. “I am grateful that volunteering for the March of Dimes gives me a chance to work with volunteers such as Lisa Bushart, co- chair of the Signature Chefs Auction and our committee volunteers.

Generous donations of sponsorships and must-have auction items have been given by our presenting sponsors, BancorpSouth and Pediatric Specialty, Inc. as well hundreds of local businesses throughout the West Tennessee area.

Funds raised by Signature Chefs Auction support lifesaving research and educational programs aimed at giving every baby a healthy start.

The most urgent infant health problem in the U.S. today is premature birth. It affects more than half a million babies each year, with the number growing every day. In 2009 the March of Dimes issued a [Report Card](#) on Premature Birth, giving the nation a D and Tennessee an F. Babies born too soon are more likely to die or have disabilities. The March of Dimes is committed to reducing this toll by funding research to find the answers to premature birth and providing comfort and information to families who are affected. At the Signature Chefs Auction, Guests will hear first-hand the impact the March of Dimes has had on the lives of many families in West Tennessee.

For information on purchasing a table or tickets for the 2010 Signature Chefs Auction, contact the March of Dimes office at 731-668-1023 or e-mail Ginger Carver at gcarver@marchofdimes.com.

The March of Dimes is the leading nonprofit organization for pregnancy and baby health. With chapters nationwide and its premier event, March for Babies®, the March of Dimes works to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. For the latest resources and information, visit marchofdimes.com or nacersano.org.