



## PROFILES IN COMPASSION

### PROFILE #6 Eileen Glassberg and Carol Walter Gala and Auxiliary Co-Founders



*Carol Walter (left) and Eileen Glassberg at a 1999 event.*

In late 1992, just over a year after Children's Place Association opened its doors, two friends from Chicago's North Shore visited our fledgling organization and met several HIV/AIDS-affected children.

Eileen Glassberg (then Eileen Minasian) and Carol Walter decided that they must do something to help. They resolved to raise much-needed funds by hosting a black-tie dinner in May 1993. They would call it the Once Upon a Time Gala.

Over the next five months, the two women worked tirelessly...organizing a committee, selling tickets and securing support from the business community. The result was a stunning triumph. A sell-out crowd of 240 people raised nearly \$100,000 in net revenue.

The event was successfully repeated the following spring, netting \$107,000. In order to continue growing, however, additional help was needed. Eileen and Carol recruited their friends and in July 1994, a group of 15 women formed the Auxiliary of Children's Place Association.

During the ensuing years, the Auxiliary expanded its ranks and the Gala also grew. The 2000 event featured a donated performance by singer Barry Manilow, attracting 840 guests and raising more than \$500,000.

The annual Gala has become one of Chicago's premier charity balls and has raised millions of dollars to help children challenged by health issues and poverty.

Thank you Eileen and Carol for your pioneering leadership!