



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**DUET'S 19TH ANNUAL POINSETTIA TEA
POURS LIFE INTO ONE-ON-ONE SERVICES**

Phoenix, AZ – Drinking tea is known to have many health benefits, but it's also the perfect remedy for improving the well-being of homebound adults and family caregivers living in the Valley. According to 19th century philosopher Bernard-Paul Heroux, "There is no trouble so great or grave that cannot be diminished by a nice cup of tea."

Duet: Partners in Health and Aging (formerly Beatitudes Center DOAR) presents its 19th Annual Poinsettia Tea on Sunday, December 6 at 2:30 p.m. Duet will host this traditional holiday event at the elegant Hyatt Regency Scottsdale at Gainey Ranch, 7500 East Doubletree Ranch Road. Nearly 600 guests will help over 17,000 Valley residents by gathering for a traditional afternoon tea, complete with scones, sandwiches and dessert.

"We are thrilled to work in tandem with so many people who want to help older adults in our community," said Elizabeth Banta, Executive Director for Duet. "Those who are homebound, disabled, and dealing with many challenging issues associated with aging are so grateful for our services."

Guests will be treated to a performance by the Phoenix Boys Choir Town Choir under the direction of Gregory Amerind. These outstanding performers will present a mix of classical, popular and folk song selections. Maryanne Kremer-Ames of "Lyra" will provide classical guitar

music as guests arrive. Destry Jetton, Channel 12's Arizona Midday Host, will serve as master of ceremonies.

This holiday event also includes the presentation of the prestigious Dosia Carlson "Kared About" Award. Pauline Finney will receive this award for dedicating over 20 years of leadership and service to helping homebound adults and caregivers.

This year, Duet supporters Debbie and Andy Seplow will announce a "challenge grant" during the Tea to raise funds for expanding Duet's free-of-charge services. The Seplows are owners of a Phoenix area Home Instead Senior Care business which offers a wide variety of fee-based home care services. Their "challenge grant" will be directed toward Duet's services for grandparents raising grandchildren.

"When we're in the homes of seniors, we're often caring for more than just seniors," said Debbie Seplow. "Grandparents don't always have the skill set to cope with complex issues relating to raising their grandchildren. These seniors may also be facing their own health issues as they gain custody of their grandchildren. So, using this challenge grant for intergenerational assistance is a privilege for us."

Platinum Sponsorship for the Poinsettia Tea has been provided by Blue Cross® Blue Shield® of Arizona, an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Tea proceeds will be "poured" into Duet's one-on-one services that are provided free-of-charge to people in need. Tickets are \$60 per person, \$27 of which is tax deductible. For reservations, call (602) 274-5022 by November 27. MasterCard, American Express and Visa are accepted.

Duet is a non-profit, interfaith organization that promotes health and well-being through a broad range of services to homebound adults, caregivers, faith communities and grandparents raising grandchildren.

To volunteer, donate, or ask for help, go to www.duetaz.org or call (602) 274-5022.

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