

Wholesaler's Effort Helps Raise \$75,000 for Foundation



From left: Sam Lazich, president of DMS Pharmaceutical; Dr. Edgar Ratcliffe Anderson Jr., Fisher House trustee; and keynoter Maj. Tammy Duckworth.

A check for \$75,000 was presented to the Fisher House Foundation as part of a May fund-raising event spearheaded by DMS Pharmaceutical Group, Park Ridge, Ill.

The Fisher House program provides “a home away from home” for families of patients receiving medical care at major military and VA medical centers. There are now 33 Fisher Houses, with several others in design or construction phases. Families of military personnel can stay in the facilities free of charge in many instances, or at a nominal cost.

DMS, a full-line wholesaler of phar-

maceuticals and medical supplies, organized the 2006 benefit event, held at Park Ridge Country Club, as a follow-up to an initial fund-raiser in May 2005. The benefits have been held in May — National Military Appreciation Month — to demonstrate support of U.S. military service men and women and their families.

Sam Lazich, DMS Pharmaceutical president, commented, “Fisher House Foundation has served 70,000 families; provided two million days of lodging; and has saved military and veterans’ families over \$60 million since 1990. We are proud and pleased to be a part of this real

and beneficial assistance for the men and women of our military and their families.”

Personal testimonials about the role of Fisher House programs in medical crises were presented by the honorary co-chairs of the benefit event, Maj. L. Tammy Duckworth and her husband, Capt. Bryan Bowlsbey, National Guard /U.S. Army.

Duckworth served in the Illinois National Guard as a combat pilot and suffered the loss of both legs and a shattered arm during a helicopter ambush in Iraq. She currently is a patient at the Hines VA Hospital near Chicago.

Duckworth and Bowlsbey were guests of a Fisher House while Duckworth underwent multiple surgeries and intensive rehabilitation at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington D.C. In their comments, the two drew on their own experience to explain how it helps to begin the healing process with family by one’s side, especially when lodging costs and subsistence expenses are not a concern.



With the check to the foundation, from left: Sam Lazich, Angie Lazich and Bill Anderson, all of DMS Pharmaceutical Group; James D. Weiskopf, Fisher House Foundation; Mark Ranger Jones and Dr. Edgar Ratcliffe Anderson Jr., Fisher House trustees.

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