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## **CHARITY GALA EVENT HITS OLYMPIC PROPORTIONS**

The Property Industry Foundation (PIF) is aiming for a gold medal fundraising performance at its annual gala event on August 22.

PIF is hoping to raise more than \$150,000 from the event, which replaces the foundation's winter ball.

Hundreds of property industry players are expected to attend the black tie event at the AJC Pavillion, Royal Racecourse.

This year's gala event is called Bazaar Street Party – An Olympic Journey and will include a four-course degustation menu starting with Australian cuisine before visiting the Olympic cities of Beijing, Athens and London.

PIF's gala event is expected to attract more than 600 attendees from across the various property sectors, including developers, builders, financiers, and investors.

PIF Chairman Brendan Crotty said the unique fundraising event would raise money for community programs which target 'at risk' youth and facilitate employment and self-responsibility.

"This year, funds raised will go to The Exodus Foundation, to assist in the development of its Centre of Education Excellence in Ashfield," he said.

The Exodus Foundation was established by the Reverend Bill Crews in Ashfield in 1986 to assist homeless and abandoned youth, and other people in need.

Today the Exodus Foundation runs the Loaves & Fishes Free Restaurant serving up to 400 meals to the needy every day. The Foundation also operates a Tutorial Centre to educate children who have fallen through the cracks in the mainstream education system. It runs a free dental and medical clinic, provides help and support services such as social workers, chaplaincy, counselling, and food parcel assistance.

"PIF has assisted many worthy charities since its inception in 1996," Mr Crotty said.

"Last year's winter ball raised more than \$150,000 for Open Family Australia and to date more than \$12 million has been raised as a result of all of PIF's fundraising initiatives."

The gala event is PIF's third fundraising activity this year, following the Yachting Regatta in March and National Hard Hat Day in June.

Tickets for the gala event are \$250 each and can be purchased through PIF on 02 9241 6000.

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