

## Mulliganeers Plan 15<sup>th</sup> Annual St Pat's Party

The Mulliganeers, a non-profit organization dedicated to raising funds for children and families in need, are finalizing details for the upcoming St. Pat's Party. Bob Sheehy, Executive Board Member and one of four founders of the organization shared, "Our organization is blessed to be the recipient of the ongoing generosity of our many friends and supporters. The St. Pat's Party, now in its 15<sup>th</sup> year, has been our main event for fundraising." Along with other fundraising activities, the Mulliganeers have raised over \$3 million and have helped over 170 children and their families.

Pat Byrne, Executive Board Member added, "Last year, we enjoyed the support of nearly 700 people and raised over \$180,000 at the St. Pat's Party." He continued, "As the needs continue to grow, so must our revenue. Our goal this year is to surpass last year's numbers."

The St Pat's Party will be held on Saturday, March 6, 2010 starting with the Catholic Mass at 5:45pm. The \$75 donation at the door includes food, beer, wine and live entertainment provided by a Chicago favorite, "*Maggie Speaks*." The event will take place at the International Brotherhood of Operating Engineers Union Hall, 6200 Joliet Road in Countryside. During the evening, guests will enjoy bidding on terrific live and silent auction items, including tickets to the final year of the Oprah Show, packages that include tickets for the Blackhawks, Sox and Cubs games and many more.

Bob Sheehy, of Robert J. Sheehy & Sons Funeral Homes, is a friend of Irish Americans in Chicago. Along with the three other founding members, Sheehy formed the Mulliganeers 15 years ago after learning of several tragedies that fell upon children in need resulting in financial and emotional hardships for their families. Many times the founding members would individually offer financial assistance to a family in need. They knew that collectively they could accomplish so much more and as a result the Mulliganeers was formed.

The Board of Directors and Committee Members of Mulliganeers are all volunteers. All professional men and women donate their time, talents and connections to this worthy cause. The recipients of financial support are always children and are determined annually by the Board of Directors. The screening and selection process is extensive. Each family that is selected must complete a financial application prior to being submitted to the Board for approval. No family is ever approved before all the paperwork is completed and all the questions are answered to our satisfaction. "We ask each potential family very specific questions about their total assets, insurance benefits, other benefits (such as Medicare or other public financial assistance), and a total list of all

outstanding debts,” stated Gloria Burjek, Board Member and Accountant. She shared that over the years they have learned that all these details give them a much better overall picture of the family’s financial need. Not all families that apply are approved. The families also sign a document with us that if their financial circumstances change, that any and all unused money be returned to us for other families in need.

For details on the St. Pat’s Party, or further information on the Mulliganeers, please visit the website at [www.mulliganeers.org](http://www.mulliganeers.org) or call Julie Reilly at 630-724-9321.