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Two downtown Philadelphia hotels to set up lemonade stand for charitable cause

Employees of Residence Inn Philadelphia Center City and Courtyard Philadelphia Downtown will raise funds for Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation

Philadelphia, **PA** – Two hotels in Center City hope Philadelphia residents will show them the love during a four-day fundraiser that will benefit children with cancer.

The <u>Residence Inn Philadelphia Center City</u> and <u>Courtyard Philadelphia Downtown</u> have teamed up for the eighth consecutive year to sell lemonade, tea and hotdogs to raise money for Alex's



Lemonade Stand Foundation. Employees from each of the Center City Philadelphia hotels will volunteer their time at the stand from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 4-7 in front of the Courtyard Marriott at 21 N. Juniper St. Guests and residents of the City of Brotherly Love are encouraged to stop by and grab a snack or simply donate to the cause.

"Alex's Lemonade Stand is one of our associates' favorite Spirit to Serve events of the year," said Jim Gratton, general manager of the downtown Philadelphia hotel. "This event brings together associates from different departments throughout each hotel and provides great camaraderie for a wonderful and needed cause."

The nonprofit foundation is named for Alexandra "Alex" Scott, who was diagnosed with cancer before she turned 1 year old. At age 4, she opened a lemonade stand in her front yard to raise money to aid doctors in finding a cure. Her plight continued each year and inspired others to host lemonade stands, with all proceeds going to find a cure for childhood cancers. Alex died at 8 years old, but her legacy continues through ALSF. The

organization has raised more than \$60 million since 2000 and is a living embodiment of its founder's spirit of determination and hope.

The two downtown Philadelphia hotels have become very connected to the families who have children at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, less than 2.5 miles away, as well as to the medical professionals and specialists who travel to the city to treat the youngsters.

The Residence Inn allows families to put their lodging worries aside by offering extended-stay options with complimentary hot breakfasts and evening socials. Studio, one- and two-bedroom <u>suites</u> have 50 percent more space compared with other downtown Philadelphia hotels and offer all of the comforts of home. Rooms have kitchens with full-sized refrigerators, stoves, microwaves, dishwashers, pots and pans, silverware and dishware so meals don't have to be consumed at a

restaurant every night and parents can save money. The hotel offers a grocery shopping service, too, so Moms and Dads don't have to stress about gathering ingredients for meals and can focus on supporting their hospitalized children. Rooms also have spacious desks, complimentary high-speed Internet access and tables with seating for two so work can be accomplished if necessary. The onsite fitness center can be the perfect escape to relieve some stress.

Medical professionals, consultants and advisors in town for a shorter stay appreciate the deluxe accommodations offered by the Courtyard. The Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, hotel features <u>rooms and suites</u> with 11-foot ceilings as well as spacious work desks, ergonomic chairs and complimentary Internet access. The hotel has an onsite restaurant, Nineteen 26, which is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner as well as a Starbucks. A large, state-of-the-art fitness center and indoor swimming pool offer a mental and physical break from daily demands.

About the Residence Inn Philadelphia Center City

The Residence Inn Philadelphia Center City is steps away from Historic City Hall and the Reading Terminal Market and within walking distance of the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts and a number of shopping and dining options. The extended-stay, all-suite hotel boasts 285 rooms with full-sized, full-equipped kitchens and offers complimentary hot breakfasts. The hotel features three meeting rooms with 2,209 square feet of flexible space and a fitness center. For information, visit <u>www.marriott.com/PHLRI</u>.

About the Courtyard Philadelphia Downtown

The Courtyard Philadelphia Downtown is in the heart of the business district and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The downtown Philadelphia hotel offers 437 rooms and 61 suites along with 16 meeting rooms with 10,900 square feet of flexible space, an onsite restaurant and Starbucks, state-of-the-art fitness center and indoor swimming pool. For information, visit www.marriott.com/PHLDC.