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The Joe Andruzzi Foundation Brings Annual Gala to Boston for First Time

16th annual event will honor Foundation's Game Changers for their Ongoing Commitment

North Attleboro, MA - (September 12, 2023) – The [Joe Andruzzi Foundation \(JAF\)](#), providing help, hope, and a reason to smile for New England cancer patients and their families through financial support when it is needed most, **will host the 16th Annual Joe Andruzzi Foundation Gala on Thursday, October 26th at the Fairmont Copley Plaza in Boston, MA. This will mark the celebration's first year in the City of Boston. For sponsorship information or to purchase tickets, visit [here](#).**

This year's gala theme is "**Believe**," and it will highlight all the inspiration, collective support, and sometimes pure magic that has allowed the Foundation to remove financial barriers for New England cancer patients over the past 16 years. Since its start, the Foundation has granted more than \$10 million to more than 40,000 cancer patients across New England to help ease the pressure of household expenses, food, transportation, extraordinary needs, and wellness resources while undergoing treatment.

"When we started the Foundation, it was our goal to help families with household expenses and more so that the patient could focus on getting the treatment they need, and that need has continued to grow," said Joe Andruzzi, Co-Founder and Chief Engagement Officer, Joe Andruzzi Foundation (JAF). "We're thrilled to bring our annual gala to Boston for the first time to celebrate our patient families, our Game Changers, and further our mission."

The event will also recognize the Foundation's 2023 "Game Changers" for their commitment to the Foundation and helping patients and their families. The honorees are: **Nick "Fitzy" Stevens**, Broadcaster at WEEI; **Dana D'Alessandro**, Manager, Oncology Social Services at [Women's & Infants Hospital](#); **Rob Hale**, Founder & CEO, [Granite Communications](#), and his wife, **Karen Hale**; **Todd Patkin**, Foxborough, MA; [The Castle Group](#); and [5 Tool Productions](#).

"We are pleased to honor this year's Game Changers and their extraordinary dedication to the Foundation," said Jen Andruzzi, CEO and President, Joe Andruzzi Foundation. "We are extremely grateful to have them on our team as we continue to fulfill our mission to help those undergoing cancer treatments, their families, and those who are struggling to make ends meet."

Guests will don festive, cocktail attire and enjoy an evening filled with food, drinks, celebrities, music by The Hess Twins and the NFL Players Choir, auction items and more, to celebrate and support those impacted by the Joe Andruzzi Foundation's mission to help New Englanders battling cancer, and their families, through a variety of grants including household expenses, food, transportation, extraordinary needs, and wellness resources.

In 2022, more than \$1.25 million was distributed in direct assistance to help 4,580 individuals with financial assistance to pay for housing, transportation, utilities, food, insurance, and other household expenses.

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About The Joe Andruzzi Foundation:

The Joe Andruzzi Foundation is committed to providing help, hope, and a reason to smile, for New England cancer patients and their families by contributing financial support when it is needed most. Founded in 2008 by former New England Patriots three-time Super Bowl Champion offensive guard Joe Andruzzi and his wife Jen, the Joe Andruzzi Foundation grew out of Joe's own successful battle with cancer and the couple's ongoing work with young cancer patients. In 2007, Joe's football career abruptly ended when he was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's Burkitt's lymphoma. Disease-free less than a year later, Joe and Jen chose to dedicate their lives towards solving the financial distress a cancer diagnosis can cause in the lives of patients and families. For more information, or to make a donation, please visit: joeandruzzifoundation.org or [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#) pages.

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