

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Laugh Out Loud with Howie Mandel Raises \$1 Million for Trillium Health Partners
Celebrity comedian headlines annual gala in support of THP's mental health program***

Mississauga, ON (March 2, 2020): *America's Got Talent* host Howie Mandel delivered a dose of laughter to Mississauga and west Toronto at the 8th Annual LOL Gala and helped to raise a remarkable \$1 million for Trillium Health Partners (THP). The event was held at the Toronto Congress Centre on February 29, 2020 and featured the musical talents of Broadway star Tony Vincent, hors d'oeuvres by celebrity chef Massimo Capra and the night was emceed by *Family Feud Canada* host Gerry Dee.

"*Laugh Out Loud 2020* was a wonderful way to begin my tenure at Trillium Health Partners Foundation," said Caroline Riseboro, President and CEO, Trillium Health Partners Foundation. "It was inspiring to see community members turn out in such large numbers and be so generous, knowing that their philanthropic support makes innovative, high-quality mental health care possible in this region."

Funds raised from this year's event will go towards THP's mental health program, which sees more than 97,000 patients every year through our inpatient, outpatient and emergency services. More people are seeking mental health treatment at THP than ever before – and they are of all ages. There has been a six per cent increase over the last five years and, in 2019 alone, THP saw more than 10,000 emergency visits related to mental health.

"As more patients seek treatment every year, there is greater demand on services and beds," said Michelle DiEmanuele, President and CEO, Trillium Health Partners. "By supporting *Laugh Out Loud*, together we are investing in positive changes that will reduce barriers and improve access for people in need of mental health care in our community."

Laugh Out Loud 2020 will help to fund the renovation of our Mental Health Adult Inpatient Unit, which will include additional beds and an added nursing station.

THP is committed to building a new kind of health care for a healthier community. In 2019, we launched "Project Now" in collaboration with our community partners to eliminate youth suicide within 10 years by increasing awareness, teaching self-regulation techniques and having a coordinated system that better addresses the needs of today's youth.

The annual event has now raised over \$12 million for Trillium Health Partners since its very first year in 2013, which was also hosted by Howie Mandel. THP would like to thank our Presenting Sponsor Square One Shopping Centre; Cocktail Reception Sponsor Pfaff Automotive Partners; Dinner Sponsor Scotiabank; and Haute Couture Sponsor Holt Renfrew for their continued partnership. We are truly grateful to all sponsors and donors who helped to make *Laugh Out Loud 2020* a success.

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About Trillium Health Partners Foundation

Trillium Health Partners Foundation is dedicated to raising the critical funds needed to address the highest-priority needs of Trillium Health Partners, one of the largest community-based acute care facilities in Canada. Trillium Health Partners is comprised of Credit Valley Hospital, Mississauga Hospital and Queensway Health Centre. To learn more, visit trilliumgiving.ca.

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For media inquiries, please contact:

Victoria Bettencourt

Communications Advisor

Office: 905-848-7100 ext 1638 Cell: 437-224-3037

89 QUEENSWAY WEST, SUITE 800, MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO, L5B 2V2

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