



## 2008 CHARLOTTE WINE & FOOD WEEKEND Community Partners Profiles

### **Allegro Foundation, A Champion for Children with Disabilities**

The Allegro Foundation combines movement instruction with education and medical expertise, creating a new vehicle to teach children with disabilities and enhance their quality of life. The organization serves children with mental retardation, Down Syndrome, orthopedic challenges, spina bifida, cerebral palsy, learning disabilities, muscular dystrophy, visual and hearing impairments, children at risk and children with cancer.

### **Charlotte Symphony Orchestra**

The Charlotte Symphony is the largest and most active performing arts organization in the central Carolinas. The Orchestra believes that orchestral music nurtures the human spirit and is integral to the preservation and development of the American culture. It is their mission to perform a broad range of music including appropriate genres of American traditional and popular music. The Charlotte Symphony is a highly-respected, financially sound and valued arts organization whose performances seek to enrich, inspire, entertain, educate and develop diverse audiences of all ages.

### **Hospitality House of Charlotte, Sheltering Families in Medical Crisis**

Since its opening in 1985, the mission of the Hospitality House has been to provide a "home away from home" for out-of-town family members of patients in local hospitals. The organization has enabled families to stay together and has helped relieve emotional and financial stress by providing a safe place for them to live at no additional cost. Currently, the Hospitality House of Charlotte operates two large houses adjacent to major hospitals and plans to build a new, larger house that will consolidate operations and increase capacity by 50 percent to better serve the community.

### **Johnson & Wales University, America's Career University®**

The mission of Johnson & Wales University is to empower its diverse student body to succeed in today's dynamic world by integrating general education, professional skills and career-focused education. The University employs its faculty, services, curricula and facilities to equip students with the conceptual and practical tools required to become contributing members of society and to achieve success in employment fields with high growth potential.

### **KinderMourn**

KinderMourn provides support for parents who have experienced the death of a child and children who are grieving the loss of a family member or friend. Through professionally led support groups, individual and family counseling and community outreach, KinderMourn remains dedicated to the purpose for which it was established: to offer hope and healing for families whose lives have been shattered by the death of a loved one.