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The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company Hosts Children’s Benefit with **ITAGroup**

Des Moines (February 6, 2009) The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company, LLC., recently hosted an event on behalf of The Foundation for Hospital Arts (www.hospitalart.org) at the headquarters of **ITAGroup**, a full service people performance improvement company based in Des Moines, IA. The event, 2009 Paintfest, was a special evening volunteer event for the benefit of Mercy Medical Center and Children & Families of Iowa.

More than a dozen representatives from Ritz-Carlton properties across the United States, Mexico and the Caribbean along with 30+ **ITAGroup** employees were on hand to put paint to canvas as part of the benefit. All of the artwork produced during the evening will be donated to Mercy Children’s Center and Children and Families of Iowa. The volunteers also stuffed bags of personal items such as shampoo, conditioner and lotion donated by the Ritz-Carlton Hotels, which will be given to The Family Violence Center.

In addition to 2009 Paintfest that evening, **ITAGroup** employee owners collected additional supplies for the benefit of Children & Families of Iowa and The Family Violence Center. The group also collected donated items such as cleaning supplies, linens/towels, books for all age-levels, games, toys and disposable cameras, which will be distributed to these organizations. To learn more about how **ITAGroup** makes a difference in the community visit <http://www.itagroup.com/Citizenship.aspx>.

To learn about Ritz-Carlton’s social and environmental program, Community Footprints log on to www.ritzcarlton.com. Here you can learn about the hotel company’s “Meaningful Meetings” program, which donates 10% of booked meeting room revenue to The Ritz-Carlton Community Footprints Fund and the charity of your choice.

About ITAGroup

ITAGroup is a full-service performance improvement company focused on improving business results through people. Partnering from assessment through post-operation analysis, **ITAGroup** engages and motivates your people through sales incentives, employee recognition programs, business-to-business loyalty solutions, product launches, marketing services, group travel events and business meetings. The company is employee owned and headquartered in Des Moines, Iowa, with sales offices in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Des Moines, Detroit, Indianapolis, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, New Jersey, New York and Florida. In 2006, **ITAGroup** earned the distinction of being named one of The Principal 10 Best Companies for Financial Strength, by Principal Financial Group.

To learn more about **ITAGroup** and its full service people performance improvement solutions please contact www.itagroup.com or call (800) 257-1985.

