



# Evening of Hope

AND

# Igniting Hope

2026 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES  
September 16 - 17, 2026 • Pavilion at the Angus Barn, Raleigh

SEPTEMBER 16, 2026  
EVENING OF HOPE  
FEATURING

*Goldie  
Hawn*



SEPTEMBER 17, 2026  
IGNITING HOPE  
DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY WITH

*Bounce!  
Party Band*



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FOUNDATION of HOPE

# Research is Hope

The Foundation of Hope is the only nonprofit organization in North Carolina dedicated solely to funding scientific research for mental illness. At a time when mental health challenges are rising and research funding remains limited, our work fills a critical gap.

Since 1984, when founders Thad and Alice Eure turned their family's personal experience into a force for change, the Foundation of

Hope has remained committed to advancing discovery and hope. We proudly fund innovative research at the UNC Department of Psychiatry, supporting projects that seek to better understand the causes of mental illness and develop more effective, lasting treatments.

To date, the Foundation of Hope has awarded 221 research grants totaling more than **\$12.1 million in seed funding**. That early

investment has helped researchers secure **over \$291 million** in additional federal and private funding, multiplying the impact of every dollar raised.

***Our mission is to conquer mental illness by investing in groundbreaking scientific research and mental health initiatives.***

## MENTAL ILLNESS TOUCHES ALL

**26%**  
of American adults  
(70+ million people)  
live with a  
mental illness

**1 IN 6**  
children ages 6-17  
have a mental,  
neurodevelopmental, or  
behavioral disorder  
*Only 50% receive treatment*

Nearly  
**43,000**  
Americans commit  
suicide every year

The generosity of our sponsors make the Evening of Hope and Igniting Hope galas premier, sold-out events that fuel life-changing research for children and adults living with mental illness.

**Contact us to reserve your sponsorship or for more information.**

Jennifer Gibson · Executive Director  
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Blair Wall Smallman · Development Manager  
blair@walkforhope.com

# Two Enchanting Evenings

JOIN US. BE ENCHANTED. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

## Evening of Hope

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

- The Evening of Hope Gala is held at the iconic Angus Barn Restaurant in Raleigh, NC. Steeped in rich history and tradition, the Angus Barn offers a one-of-a-kind culinary experience.
- Limited seating for 420 guests, including prominent individuals, corporate leaders, and social influencers, who will indulge in an exquisite four-course culinary experience complemented by sommelier-selected wine pairings.
- Photo opportunity with celebrity keynote speaker Goldie Hawn.
- High-end, curated items elevate the live and silent auctions at this spectacular event featuring wine, amazing getaways, and unique experiences.
- Sold out for the last 13 years.
- **Individual seats are \$1,000 each and tables of ten (10) are \$10,000**



## Igniting Hope

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

- Fun and festive celebration of dinner and dancing with 300 guests at the elegant Angus Barn Pavilion in Raleigh, NC.
- Exceptional culinary experience showcasing Carolina charm at its finest with premium wines, craft beers, and artisanal cocktails.
- Dance along with the energetic Bounce! Party Band.
- Handpicked silent and live auction items featuring wine, fabulous getaways, and unforgettable experiences.
- **Individual seats are \$250 each and tables of ten (10) are \$2,500**

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Jennifer Gibson • Blair Wall Smallman • 919-781-9255

# Sponsorship Packages

2026 sponsors receive benefits across both the Evening of Hope and Igniting Hope events!

SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS	PRESENTING \$40,000	SPEAKER \$25,000	AUCTION \$15,000	PAVILION \$10,000	BARN \$5,000	PROGRAM \$2,500
Packages available	2	3	-	-	-	-
Seats at the Evening of Hope	10 PREMIUM	8 PREFERRED	4 PAVILION	2 PATIO	-	-
Seats at Igniting Hope	10 PREMIUM	8 PREFERRED	10 PREFERRED	8	6	4
Prominent signage locations throughout venue both nights	5	4	3	3	3	3
Recognition in printed program at the Evening of Hope	NAME ON COVER & FULL PAGE AD	FULL PAGE AD & NAME ON SPEAKER PAGE	HALF PAGE LOGO	LOGO	LOGO	NAME INSIDE FRONT COVER & LOGO INSIDE BACK COVER
Recognition on menu card at Igniting Hope	NAME ON COVER & LOGO ON BACK	LOGO ON BACK	LOGO ON BACK	LOGO ON BACK	LOGO ON BACK	LOGO ON BACK
On-screen recognition during the event in the digital slideshow and rotating on mobile auction bidding screen	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo and link on Evening of Hope and Igniting Hope landing pages, auction website, and event emails.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Social media recognition	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recognition in text messages from auction software	✓	✓	✓			
Podium recognition at both events	✓	✓				
Logo on Foundation of Hope website as year-round sponsor	✓	✓				
Recognition on printed invitation (2,000)	NAME & LOGO	LOGO				
Guests will receive a parting gift with your branding provided by Foundation of Hope	✓					
<b>ESTIMATED TAX-DEDUCTIBLE AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$36,750</b>	<b>\$22,000</b>	<b>\$12,950</b>	<b>\$8,600</b>	<b>\$4,250</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>

\*Availability of some sponsorship benefits are based on scheduling and print deadlines.

Foundation of Hope is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. EIN / Tax ID #56-6246626. The Fair Market Value (FMV) of each Evening of Hope seat is \$200 and each Igniting Hope seat is \$125. The balance of your payment may be tax-deductible.

We are happy to customize sponsorships to meet your marketing and philanthropic goals.

2026

# Exclusive Opportunities

Showcase your company brand with these exclusive opportunities:

## Paddle

**\$8,000**

Logo on one side of the auction bid paddles

All "Barn" level sponsor benefits

2 additional Igniting Hope tickets

## Signature Cocktail

**\$6,000**

Opportunity to create and name signature cocktail provided to all guests at Igniting Hope

Signage at Gala entrance

All "Barn" level sponsor benefits

## Reception

**\$8,000**

Logo on one side of the cocktail napkin

All "Barn" level sponsor benefits

2 additional Igniting Hope tickets

## Band

**\$6,000**

Logo on event emails including Band information

Logo on signage at Band stage at Igniting Hope

All "Barn" level sponsor benefits



Contact us to reserve your sponsorship or for more information.

Jennifer Gibson · Blair Wall Smallman · 919-781-9255

# A Look Back

## AT THE 2025 GALAS

Last year, across two glittering nights, the Evening of Hope and Igniting Hope Galas brought together community leaders and supporters to help fund mental illness research through their incredible generosity.

EVENING OF HOPE & IGNITING HOPE

### By the Numbers

**Gross Total Raised: \$1,260,000**

**\$405,076** from live & silent auctions · **\$326,768** from fund the need for CHAAMP

**\$161,000** from monetary sponsors

#### EVENING OF HOPE

**420** Guests

**200** Silent Auction Lots · Fabulous Live Auction  
Celebrity Mental Health Speaker  
Sold out annually for the past 13 years

#### IGNITING HOPE

**300** Guests

**110** Silent Auction Lots · Handpicked Live Auction  
Crowd-favorite dance band  
Fun and festive celebration

EVENING OF HOPE & IGNITING HOPE

### Digital Benefits

4 e-newsletters to supporters with sponsor logos totaling 56,500 emails

5,926 Facebook and Instagram followers combined · 3,000+ monthly website visitors

10,000+ monthly website visitors in September & October

Your brand featured through professional photography and shared across social media and Flickr

#### We are grateful for the partnership of these top sponsors in 2025:

Dogwood State Bank, First Citizens Bank, Summit Hospitality, UNC Health, First National Bank, CJF Contracting, CPI Security, Morgan Stanley RHO Group, Synergy Face + Body, Rick & Annette Guirlinger, Drucker + Falk, Delta Airlines, Band Together/United Way, Long Beverage, Angus Barn, Atlas Production Group, White Horse Transportation, Umstead Hotel and Spa, Elevate, and MPI TOO.

#### PREVIOUS EVENING OF HOPE SPEAKERS



Helen  
Hunt  
2025



Dennis  
Quaid  
2024



Wynonna  
Judd  
2023



Marie  
Osmond  
2022



LeAnn  
Rimes  
2022



Elizabeth  
Vargas  
2019



Brooke  
Shields  
2018



Zak  
Williams  
2015



Mariel  
Hemingway  
2013