



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 16, 2010

***Fandango! Con Amore* celebrates the beauty, passion and culture of Italy** ~ 8th annual Bridgepoint Health fundraising gala continues tradition of bringing world's best parties to Toronto ~

On Saturday, May 1, the Regency Ballroom of the Four Seasons Hotel will be transformed into part of the sun-drenched, lemon-scented Amalfi Coast for *Fandango! Con Amore*, a fundraising gala for Bridgepoint Health that's inspired by the passion, beauty and culture of Italy.

The sold-out crowd of 450 *Fandango!* guests will enjoy the delectable cuisine and fine wines for which Italy is famous. They will also be entertained by the romantic music of singer Mark Masri as well as traditional Tarantella dancers.

CTV personality Ken Shaw will host the gala, which begins with cocktails at 6 p.m., followed by dinner and dancing at 7 p.m. The event also includes a charity auction, featuring a Alitalia/Four Seasons romantic Italian vacation package along with other luxury items.

"The individuals and organizations who have come together to make *Fandango! Con Amore* a success are helping us to change the world for people with complex chronic disease – the number one healthcare challenge of the 21st century," says Marian Walsh, President and CEO of Bridgepoint Health. "Money raised by *Fandango! Con Amore* will support Bridgepoint's mission to meet the challenge of complex chronic disease. In Ontario, 70 per cent of people over age 45 have complex chronic disease, that is, two or more lifelong conditions such as diabetes, cancer, heart disease and stroke."

"We're grateful to all our sponsors, donors and volunteers for making *Fandango!* such a successful event for the eighth year in a row. They are truly making a wonderful difference for Bridgepoint's patients," says Ann Kerwin, Chair of the *Fandango! Con Amore* planning committee and Vice-Chair of Bridgepoint Health Foundation.

More than \$1 million has been raised by *Fandango!* since it was first held in 2003. *Fandango! Con Amore* continues the tradition of bringing the world's best

parties to Toronto. Past *Fandango!* themes have included a French soirée, a Spanish fiesta and a bhangra-influenced South Asian celebration.

Fandango! Con Amore's dinner sponsors are Plenary Health, in association with PCL, Johnson Controls and Innisfree. "Oro" sponsors are Edward Jones Canada, MetroLabel, McCarthy Tétrault and TD. The auction sponsor is Goldman Sachs. The official airline sponsor is Alitalia. The print sponsor is The Printing House and the media sponsor is the National Post. "Argento" sponsors are rL Solutions and Stantec Architecture / Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg.

Confirmed guests attending *Fandango! Con Amore* include:

- Cathie and Rudy Bratty
- Gina and Paul Godfrey
- Velvet and John Haney
- Catherine Nugent
- Suzanne and Edward Rogers
- Harry Rosen
- Rosalie and Isadore Sharp
- Maureen and Wayne Squibb

About Bridgepoint Health

Bridgepoint Health is a publicly funded healthcare organization in Toronto that provides patient care, research and teaching in the specialized field of complex chronic disease prevention and management – the biggest healthcare challenge of the 21st century.

Affiliated with the University of Toronto, the Bridgepoint Health includes:

- Bridgepoint Hospital
- Bridgepoint Family Health Team
- Bridgepoint Collaboratory for Research and Innovation
- Bridgepoint Health Foundation

About complex chronic disease

The success of modern medicine means more and more people are living with two or more chronic illnesses – such as diabetes, stroke, heart disease, arthritis, and cancer. This is referred to as complex chronic disease. In Ontario, 70 per cent of people over age 45 have complex chronic disease, and the rate will increase dramatically as the population ages. Bridgepoint Health is Canada's only healthcare organization focused exclusively on the prevention and treatment of complex chronic disease.

For more information or photos of the event:

Bridgepoint Corporate Communications
416.302.5536 media@bridgepointthehealth.ca
www.lifechanges.ca