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**Feeding Matters raises more than $290,000 for Pediatric Feeding Disorders**

Honors Valley philanthropist Joan Lowell with Inaugural Visionary Award

PHOENIX, Ariz. (October 3, 2018) –[Feeding Matters](http://www.feedingmatters.org/), the only organization in the world dedicated to advancing the system of care for pediatric feeding disorders, raised more than $290,000 during its 6th Annual Community Luncheon at the historic Arizona Biltmore on Tuesday, September 25. More than 700 guests joined honorary chairs Amy and Patrick Armstrong as the Arizona-based nonprofit honored Valley businesswoman and philanthropist Joan Lowell with its inaugural Visionary Award.

“There is plenty of research that suggests nutrition is the foundation for growth and development. Yet, today, pediatric feeding disorders are a silent issue, says Feeding Matters President and CEO Chris Linn. “The time and generosity of our supporters, partners, and donors will help Feeding Matters give a voice to the more than 2.3 million children under the age of five in the United States who experience severe pediatric feeding disorders.”

Presented by Jaburg|Wilk Attorneys at Law and the Armstrong Family Foundation, the annual fundraiser is underwritten by local sponsors, including the Arizona Community Foundation, Lerner & Rowe Gives Back, Mercy Care, Miracle Mile Deli, and Shamrock Farms. Additionally, the Dorrance Family Foundation has provided a dollar-for-dollar match challenge for the first $50,000 raised.

**About Feeding Matters**

For kids with pediatric feeding disorders, every bite of food can be painful, scary, or impossible, potentially impeding nutrition, development, growth, and overall well-being. Founded in 2006, Feeding Matters is the first organization in the world devoted to accelerating identification, igniting research, promoting collaborative care, and encouraging awareness and understanding for pediatric feeding disorders. In 2017, Feeding Matters reached more than 129,000 families and medical professionals from all 50 states and 112 countries.

Since 2014, Feeding Matters has leveraged its medical professional council and relationships with internationally renowned pediatric feeding experts to facilitate a groundbreaking consensus paper. Recently accepted for publication with minor revisions by the Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition, the paper declares a unifying name and stand-alone diagnosis for the broad spectrum of pediatric feeding struggles now treated as a symptom to over 300 other conditions, such as autism, cerebral palsy, and cystic fibrosis.

To learn more about pediatric feeding disorders, visit [feedingmatters.org](http://www.feedingmatters.org) or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube at [@FeedingMatters](http://www.twitter.com/feedingmatters).