



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **NOVA Auction & Gala "An Evening at the Garden Party" a Huge Success**

*Over \$125,000 raised will go towards NOVA programs and services*

**(BUCKS COUNTY, Pa.)** –NOVA is pleased to announce that its annual Auction & Gala was a huge success, raising over \$125,000 in support of NOVA programs and services to help victims of crime and prevent violence through training and education.

The event, NOVA's largest fundraiser of the year, was held at The Warrington, in Warrington, Pa. and the theme was *An Evening at the Garden Party*. The event included a four-course dinner, music by The Zone (<http://thezoneband.com>), a silent auction and a raffle for two club seat tickets to a Beyonce concert. The silent auction featured over 150 items, including gift certificates, merchandise, sports memorabilia, jewelry, art and gift baskets.

At this year's Gala, NOVA introduced the *Karen Kern Children's Fund* to honor Board member Karen Kern's contributions of leadership and commitment to NOVA. Kern passed away in  
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February 2023. The fund supports evidence-based services for children who are the victim of crime, exploitation, and abuse. As a Board member for more than 25 years, Kern's mission-focused leadership helped NOVA build its reputation as an organization that looks forward, anticipates the needs of the community and pivots, as needed. The gala raised more than \$60,000 for the *Karen Kern Children's Fund* towards its goal of \$100,000. Donations for this fund can be made via [www.novabucks.org/childrensfund](http://www.novabucks.org/childrensfund).

"Nearly 300 NOVA supporters attended NOVA's annual Auction & Gala, our main fundraising event of the year," said Michelle Cash, Director of Development, NOVA. "Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and supporters, the event was a huge success and a great precursor to NOVA's 50th Anniversary of serving Bucks County as the comprehensive crime victim services agency."

NOVA is grateful to all of those in the community who supported the event, none more so than EC Fence & Ironworks, the title sponsor of NOVA's Gala and a major supporter of NOVA's Auction and other fundraising events for over a decade. Other sponsors included:

- Peony Sponsors
  - Penn Community Bank
- Hydrangea Sponsors
  - Fred Beans Family of Dealerships
  - Parx Casino

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  - Saint Peters Evangelical Lutheran Church
  - Secant Group
  - T & T Tree Service

Those interested in doing more to support NOVA are invited to participate in next year's 50th Anniversary Gala to be held in April 2024! With the support of individual donors, corporate sponsors and countless businesses in the community NOVA will succeed in its mission to be a hopeful light for individuals healing from serious crimes, and for the greater community as it works to end patterns of violence.

### **About NOVA**

NOVA supports, counsels and empowers victims of sexual assault and other serious crimes in Bucks County and works to prevent and eliminate violence in society through advocacy,

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training, community education and prevention programs. Founded in 1974, NOVA is a non-profit 501(c)(3), community-based organization operating out of three offices in Fairless Hills, Jamison and Perkasie. Services are made possible through the financial support of federal, state and local government grants and contracts, corporations, foundations and private donations. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. For more information, visit [www.NOVABucks.org](http://www.NOVABucks.org).

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**Images by Nichole Hignett of TrueToLife Photography (<https://www.truetolifephotography.org/>) and captions courtesy of NOVA:**

**IMG 8193--** Penny Ettinger, Executive Director, NOVA and Sarah Larson, Board President, NOVA, pose in front of the organization's new iron sign provided by EC Fence & Ironworks.



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**IMG 8179**--Brothers Chris (pictured) and Mike Mazzoni of the local rock band The Zone (<http://thezoneband.com>) donated their talents with a lively variety of fun party music.



**IMG 8181**--NOVA Auction Committee member Dina Schardinger sells raffle tickets to Beyonce's Philadelphia concert.

