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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Kolter | Kast Construction Partners with the Achievement Centers for Children & Families**

### **Foundation for Charity Poker Tournament Raising Over \$570K**

DELRAY BEACH, FL (December 17, 2014)— Over 150 business leaders and corporate execs from all over South Florida and beyond came together Wednesday December 3<sup>rd</sup> in the renowned Cathedral Room at the Boca Raton Resort & Club for the second *Havana Nights*. This high-stakes poker tournament raised over \$570,000 for the Achievement Centers for Children & Families and seven other Palm Beach County nonprofit partners.

Presented by Kolter | Kast Construction, the Cuban themed evening featured a cocktail reception, professional poker tournament, gourmet dinner stations, drinks and the much enjoyed indieSWIM women's fashion show with hair and makeup by Naked Hair Salon – all in support of 8 worthy charities serving Palm Beach County.

Ambitious and hopeful players left the game with nothing more than slightly bruised egos, but were still in good spirits knowing their support made a difference in the lives of children, families, and veterans as well as individuals at end of life or in medical need throughout our community. With a combination of skill and luck, the top ten players made it to the final championship table. The competition intensified and five players remained. As the rounds continued well beyond midnight, a unanimous decision was made to split the winnings with four of the five winners taking home \$2,000 and the remaining \$10,000 in prize money being donated back to the charities.

“The level of sponsor support for this year's event completely exceeded our hopes. Collectively, from small business owners to large corporations, the impact the sponsors have made in our area is significant,” stated Abigail Goodwin, Executive Director of the Achievement Centers Foundation, “The vision for this event truly comes from the leadership at Kolter | Kast Construction. Their commitment to making a difference in the community is evident not only by underwriting the entire event, but through the efforts they and their teams put into raising sponsorship funds.”

This premiere event was made possible with the commitment of more than 80 companies in South Florida that went all-in, particularly the top sponsors including Kolter | Kast Construction, which underwrote the event, Gunster Law Firm, MT Scapes and Regions Bank.

“I came up with the concept two years ago because I was sensing that people were getting tired of all the black-tie galas and we wanted to do something memorable. So we created a charity poker tournament and made it spectacular. This year our event was the hardest poker tournament to get in to as it quickly sold out,” said Bobby Julien, CEO of Kolter Group and Chairman of the Operational Board of the Achievement Centers for Children & Families. “The real pay-off comes when we get to see the charitable results from what we raised.”

“We were honored to play a role in this incredible event that benefited so many important non-profits. Our business deals with building strong foundations, so it's wonderful to support organizations that are building strong charity foundations,” said Michael Neal, President of KAST Construction Company.

**ABOUT THE ACHIEVEMENT CENTERS:** The Achievement Centers for Children & Families is a community based social services organization that provides a safe, nurturing environment for children facing the highest risk of poverty, abuse, abandonment or neglect. The Center's mission is to ensure school readiness, provide skill building opportunities, promote academic achievement and support healthy lifestyles. Their award-winning services and nationally accredited programs serve over 800 children and 500 adults. Services include toddler, preschool, afterschool, teen and family programs. For more information visit [www.AchievementCentersFL.org](http://www.AchievementCentersFL.org).

**BENEFITING CHARITIES:** Achievement Centers for Children & Families, Boys and Girls Club, Habitat for Humanity Palm Beach County, Hospice by the Sea Foundation & Hospice of Palm Beach County Foundation, Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County, Place of Hope, Quantum House and Renewal Coalition.