

MercyFirst Annual Harvest Ball Raises Over \$120,000

On Thursday, Nov. 4, over 250 supporters gathered for MercyFirst's Annual Harvest Ball, held at The Garden City Hotel in Garden City. With the generosity of all the sponsors and supporters, this year's event raised over \$120,000 to help fund MercyFirst's programs. The 2010 Honoree was Thomas M. O'Brien, president and CEO of State Bank. Mr. O'Brien and State Bank have been longtime supporters and good friends to the children of MercyFirst. A special tribute was made to longtime MercyFirst board member Joseph H. Farrell, who has been dedicated to the mission of MercyFirst for over 40 years.

O'Brien is president and chief executive officer of State Bank of Long Island and its parent company State Bancorp, Inc. O'Brien began his banking career in 1977 at North Side Savings Bank where he was appointed CEO in 1984 at age 33. In 1986, he led North Side's initial public offering, among the first savings banks to go public in New York State. O'Brien joined North Fork Bank Corporation as vice chairman and a member

of the board of directors in 1996 in conjunction with North Fork's acquisition of North Side. In 2000, he joined Atlantic Bank of New York as president and CEO and a member of the board of directors.

Among O'Brien's current affiliations are: Director of the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York, independent trustee for Prudential Insurance Company's \$100 billion mutual fund complex, vice chairman of the Catholic Healthcare System of New York and Catholic Healthcare Foundation, Inc., and trustee for Niagara University. He has previously served as chairman of the New York State Bankers Association and as a trustee of Molloy College, where he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws.

Headquartered in Syosset, MercyFirst is a not-for-profit human service agency founded by the Sisters of Mercy in 1894. MercyFirst provides an integrated continuum of care for over 4,000 traumatized and neglected children, teenagers and their families at nearly 20 sites throughout Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk counties.



MercyFirst Board of Trustees chair Kevin Shine, honoree Thomas O'Brien and MercyFirst CEO Gerard McCaffery celebrated at the Harvest Ball.





MercyFirst Board of Trustees chair Kevin Shine, with MercyFirst CEO Gerard McCaffery also congratulated Joseph Farrell, who was honored for serving on the board of directors for over 40 years.