

Inaugural Benefit for Obesity Prevention

Over \$700,000 was raised at the first summer benefit for HOPE at NYU (for Harris Obesity Prevention Effort), an NYU Medical Center initiative to fight childhood obesity with evidence-based practices.

HOPE was founded by J. Ira and Nicki Harris and is directed by Dr. Laurie Miller Brotman, the Corzine Family Associate Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. The event was hosted by Traie and Doug Teitelbaum in Water Mill, N.Y.

"I struggled with my own weight for many years," said HOPE founder J. Ira Harris. "No child should suffer the great burden of being overweight."

The event honored Khaliah Ali, daughter of boxing legend Muhammad Ali, and co-author of the recent book *Fighting Weight*.

HOPE at NYU aims to reverse the serious and preventable public health problem of childhood obesity by developing effective research-based solutions for children and their families. Currently, HOPE at NYU supports obesity prevention research focusing on low-income, ethnic minority preschoolers and their families, and the evaluation of gastric

LapBand surgery in obese teens.

Among the speakers were NYU bariatric surgeon George Fielding, M.D., who, like Mr. Harris and Mr. Teitelbaum, spoke movingly about how gastric LapBand surgery saved his life, and Harold S. Koplewicz, M.D., Senior Vice President and Vice Dean for External Affairs. Dr. Koplewicz spoke about the importance of nationwide research-based obesity prevention efforts to save the first generation in American history whose average life span will be shorter than their parents' because of obesity.

A highlight of the evening was singer-songwriter Don McLean, who performed his classic hit "American Pie." Major sponsors of the event included the Allergan Foundation. ●

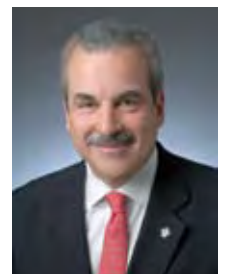
For further information, visit www.hopenyu.org

Dr. Koplewicz Appointed First Vice Dean for External Affairs

Harold S. Koplewicz, M.D., has been named Senior Vice President and Vice Dean for External Affairs.

In his new position, he oversees the Offices of Development and Communications & Public Affairs, and is a member of the new senior management team that will coordinate the integration of NYU Hospitals Center and NYU School of Medicine. One of the nation's leading child and adolescent psychiatrists, Dr. Koplewicz is the first Chairman of the newly created Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, only the second of its kind in the country.

In a letter announcing the new senior management team, Dean & CEO Robert I. Grossman, M.D., praised Dr. Koplewicz's strong track record in fund-raising. Dean Grossman said that Dr. Koplewicz, the Arnold and Debbie Simon Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, would work closely with him and the Medical Center's Board of Trustees to facilitate a new capital fund-raising campaign to



develop and support new facilities, recruit new faculty, and expand academic programs, among other initiatives.

Dr. Koplewicz will continue as Director of the Nathan Kline Institute and Chairman of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. Since founding the NYU Child Study Center in 1998, he has gained extensive experience with fund-raising and the national media. Today the Child Study Center has an annual operating budget of more than \$27 million and a federal research grants portfolio in excess of \$46 million. It employs 250 faculty members and staff, and that number is expected to double by 2009, when a new 120,000-square-foot home for the center will be built. ●



1 Traie Teitelbaum
Doug Teitelbaum

4 Nicki Harris
J. Ira Harris

2 Jonathan Harris
Kenneth G. Langone,
NYU Medical Center
Board Chairman
Jackie Harris
Hochberg

3 Khaliah Ali