



¡Viva! An Evening in Old Havana

BARRINGTON YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES' (BYFS) co-chairs invite the community to their annual fundraising gala where guests will jet-set back in time and experience the grandeur of Old Havana. Barrington Hills Country Club will be transformed for the evening of April 22, 2017 to reflect the romance of 1950s Cuba, a time when the tropical island served as an exotic playground for the likes of Ava Gardner, Frank Sinatra, and Ernest Hemingway.

The BYFS Auxiliary Board, led by co-chairs Tiffany Marshall (above left) and Lara Kercinik (on right), is responsible for planning and hosting the event which aims to raise \$200,000. "There's so much inspiration in the culture of 1950s Havana—the music, the food, the way people dressed, the overall vibe. It's going to be so much fun to take our guests back to that place and time for a night!" says Marshall.

The mission of BYFS, which was founded in 1972, is to offer counseling, education, and prevention solutions to support the social, emotional, and psychological well-being of youth and their families in the Barrington area. BYFS is a vibrant, innovative, go-to agency that collaboratively responds to the social and emotional needs of the community. "We believe that by helping children and their families, we build the strength of the entire community" says Rita Rippentrop, executive director of BYFS. She adds, "This is our biggest fundraiser of the year, and the money raised will go directly back into the community for vital services, including counseling, peer mentoring, healthy relationship development, violence prevention, and addiction prevention and treatment."

"Every community faces challenges with regard to mental health. Barrington is fortunate to have BYFS and it is important that we continue to support its programming, services, and mission. Fundraising efforts not only increase awareness, but they also help to reduce stigma. We are excited to keep the momentum going and look very forward to another successful gala in April," says Kercinik.

Tickets are \$185 per person and will be available online in mid-March. For event details, sponsorship opportunities, or information on auction items, follow BYFS on Facebook and Instagram, or contact Auxiliary board member Tiffany Marshall at 708-380-3830 or tiffany.marshall@sothebysrealty.com

