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PROCON partners with CFS on 4th annual SleepOut

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Manchester, NH On March 23rd, Child and Family Services (CFS) of N.H., hosted their 4th annual SleepOut to raise community awareness and funds for homeless and at-risk youth. The CFS team was joined by state and local business leaders, advocates and supporters at the Stanton Plaza. Among the attendees were N.H. governor Chris Sununu, Manchester mayor Joyce Craig and 30-year CFS corporate sponsors Mark and Sally Stebbins, owners of PROCON.

The SleepOut is an annual event that raises crucial funds and awareness about youth homelessness by engaging community leaders and advocates. SleepOut participants experience a single night on the cold ground in solidarity to raise funds for life-transforming services.

More than 120 sleepers participated in this year's SleepOut and raised over \$300,000 surpassing their original \$250,000 goal. CFS president and CEO Borja Alvarez de Toledo talked about the impact of the event for the city's at-risk youth. "With the funds raised, we will be able to provide these youth with all of the services for their basic needs. But not only that; we are also going to provide them with the connections and programs that they need to actually have a future and success."

Funds raised by the 2018 SleepOut Event will be used to support the Youth Resource Center in Manchester, the Street Outreach initiatives in Manchester and at the Seacoast, as well as the Transitional Living Program (6 locations in N.H.).

For more than three decades the Stebbins family has supported the programs championed by Child and Family Services in Manchester. Mark Stebbins grew up in the city, and over 80 years ago, his grandfather Blanchard opened the family business on Lincoln Street. That building was adjacent to the one that houses the current CFS Youth Resource Center. History came full circle in 2016 when the Stebbins Family donated \$200,000 that enabled CFS to update the facility into a modern resource hub for their youth programs and services. The family's legacy continues with Mark and Sally's daughter Jennifer Stebbins, who is a CFS board member.

During the evening, the Stebbins Family presented CFS with a check for \$20,000 to help continue their work combatting youth homelessness. Mark Stebbins said "The staff at Child and Family Services truly cares about the city's homeless youth and goes to great lengths, to not only reach out to them but also to provide the programs and services they need to get off the streets and get their lives on track for a great future."

PROCON team members turned out in force for the event, demonstrating their commitment to aiding at-risk youth, and raised an additional \$8,000 towards the cause.

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