

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **AUSTRIANS JOIN QUEST FOR THE CURE**

**February 28, 2013** - On Thursday, February 28, at a festive donor's day reception in the Los Angeles suburb of Duarte, California, Austrian-American Council West President Veronika Reinelt presented City of Hope Chair of the Department of Pediatrics Dr. Joseph Rosenthal with a donation check of \$250,000 to support the 100 year old hospital's highly acclaimed work in curing children's cancer.

"City of Hope is known worldwide as a pioneering research center with a compassionate standard of patient care, which is why we chose this beautiful hospital to receive the donation" stated Mrs. Reinelt at the presentation luncheon.

The Austrian-American Council West (AACW) was founded in 1985 with the mission of perpetuating Austrian-American friendship, and this statement of purpose appears on the appreciation plaque that was unveiled by Ms. Reinelt and Executive Vice President Lilliana Popov-Alexander in the activity room that was dedicated to the AACW.

This spacious therapeutic room is prominently located directly behind the main information desk in the Main Medical Building at City of Hope. A much needed space for patient care, support groups, healing activities, art therapy, and educational programs to service, assist, and nurture pediatric patients and their families. AACW's generous gift will further strengthen the bonds of the long-standing transatlantic friendship that exists between Austria and the United States.

"We believe in giving back to the community that accepted us as immigrants and enabled us to prosper, and we could think of no better way to show this friendship from the Austrian side than to contribute to America's future through the health of its children" added Mrs. Reinelt.

Thirty benefactors and directors of the AACW along with Field Deputy Brian Mejia of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors toured the attractive campus of City of Hope, and participated in the unveiling and viewed the donors' wall, in addition to visiting the rose garden where a plaque commemorates an earlier 2008 gift from the AACW given in honor of Austrian-American Day.