

V FOUNDATION RAISES \$4 MILLION FOR CANCER RESEARCH

The 13th V Foundation Wine Celebration Aug. 5 and 6 raised more than \$4 million for cancer research.

The annual event is a signature fundraiser for The V Foundation, started by legendary sportscaster and coach Jim Valvano.

The 2011 V Wine Celebration weekend included a Friday night Vintner Cook-off, with Cyril Chappellet, Robin Baggett, Jeff Gargiulo and Dave Miner competing at the grills.

Saturday began with the research symposium with the V Foundation Scientific Advisory Board, which is composed of leading cancer physicians from across the country and culminated in a gala dinner and live auction at Nickel & Nickel Winery.

Neil Aldoroty, a Napa Valley businessman and a four-time non-Hodgkins lymphoma survivor, spoke to guests about the need to fund cancer research, and a vintner grant to benefit stomach cancer research was named in honor of Robin Baggett and Michelle Fields of Alpha Omega Winery.

This year's Fund A Need benefited brain cancer research and raised more than \$1 million with the help of a \$500,000 matching pledge from Accelerated Brain Cancer Cure.

The auction lots included a trip via private jet from Napa to New York City to attend private fashion week events with vintners Beth Nickel and Teri Kuhn, a Tuscan vacation that includes a winemaking session with vintner Alessandro Landini, a trip to the London Olympics with VIP access, and an Australian Labradoodle puppy named Vern.

Nancy Probst was the winner of the raffle for a 2012 Bentley Continental GT Coupe, which raised \$325,000. The evening finished with a private performance by the legendary rock band, the Doobie Brothers.

The 2012 V Foundation Wine Celebration is Aug. 3 & 4 with 100 percent of all net proceeds and new cash donations from events applied directly to cancer research grants and opportunities.

For more information or tickets to the 2012 event visit winecelebration.org.