

EAST ORANGE GENERAL HOSPITAL

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Tickets Still Available for May 13 East Orange General Hospital Gala Honoring Olympian Joetta Clark Diggs

East Orange, May 4, 2011 – Tickets and limited sponsorship opportunities are still available for East Orange General Hospital’s annual *Ball of the Oranges* gala to be held Friday, May 13 at the Wilshire Grand Hotel in West Orange. The black tie event begins with cocktails at 6 p.m. followed by dinner and a recognition program at 7:30 pm. Entertainment and dancing will follow. This year’s special evening will honor four-time Olympian and one of America’s greatest middle distance runners, Joetta Clark Diggs. Mrs. Diggs was born at East Orange General Hospital and grew up in Maplewood. She went on to win multiple NCAA track championships while at the University of Tennessee before competing in the 1988, 1992, 1996 and 2000 Olympic Games.

Mrs. Clark Diggs is currently executive director of the Joetta Clark Diggs Sports Foundation, where she is committed to motivating young people to excel at whatever they pursue. She is also a much sought after motivational speaker.

“The *Ball of the Oranges* is the hospital Foundation’s major fund raising event, as well as an opportunity for us to share with the community some of the progress and innovation we’ve been fortunate to experience this past year,” said hospital President and CEO Kevin Slavin. “In addition, we’re delighted to recognize Joetta Clark Diggs as this year’s honoree. Beyond her achievements as a world-class athlete, she has become an inspiration and role model for young people and a motivating force for positive change in our urban communities.” Proceeds from this year’s *Ball of the Oranges* will benefit the numerous essential programs and services that East Orange General provides the communities it serves. For sponsorship information or to register for the *Ball of the Oranges*, contact Suzette Robinson at 973-414-1871.

About East Orange General Hospital

East Orange General Hospital is East Orange’s largest private employer and Essex County’s only independent, fully accredited, acute-care hospital. Serving the community for over a century, East Orange General Hospital recently expanded its services and is continually adding new equipment and programs to provide the highest level of quality and compassionate patient care. Specialty areas include: Same Day Surgery, Physical Rehabilitation Services, Behavioral Health, Family Health, Emergency Medicine, Outpatient Hemodialysis, Hyperbaric/Wound Management, Vascular and Medical/Surgical Services.