NEW YORK, NY – April 24, 2013 – The Mental Health Association of New York City (MHA-NYC) is honored to announce that Howard Cross, Superbowl champion Tight End for the New York Giants, television personality and Senior Vice President at commercial real estate firm Cresa New York has joined our annual benefit gala on June 6th at Cipriani 42nd Street as Master of Ceremonies. The event, “Where There is Help, There is Hope” will highlight MHA-NYC’s 50 years of providing people with mental health challenges and their families with the support they need to live productive and healthy lives.

Mr. Cross previously enlivened MHA-NYC’s 2012 gala event as a special guest and auction host. “We are so happy to have Howard Cross expand his role with MHA-NYC and serve as emcee for our 2013 gala,” said Giselle Stolper, President and CEO of MHA-NYC.

This year’s gala will focus especially on the mental wellbeing of our nation’s veterans and military personnel whose psychological wounds can be as painful and debilitating as the physical injuries sustained in war. To serve America’s veterans, MHA-NYC has partnered with government to provide life-saving programs such as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and the Veterans’ Crisis Line. These lines respond to hundreds of thousands of calls for help each year.

The event also marks the one-year anniversary of the launch of MHA-NYC’s national Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Emotional Wellness Alliance. The Alliance will have a lasting legacy for many thousands of veterans, recreational and professional athletes, their families and others.
impacted by brain injury by raising awareness of the behavioral health impact of concussions and TBIs.

The benefit will honor a true philanthropic leader, Kenneth Fisher, of Fisher Brothers, and founder of Fisher Houses, a network of 60 "homes away from home" for military families to be close to a loved one during hospitalization for an illness, disease or injury.

Ric Clark, Chairman of Brookfield Office Properties and Bruce Mosler, Chairman of Global Brokerage, Cushman & Wakefield, Inc. will serve as Dinner Chairs. Vice Chairs for “Where There is Help, There is Hope” are: Frank Branchini, President and COO of EmblemHealth, Inc., Scott Cutler, Executive Vice President and Head of Global Listings at NYSE Euronext, Kevin J. Danehy, Executive Chairman, Brookfield Global Relocation Services, Inc., and Cynthia Zirinsky, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, New York Gracie Square Hospital.

Learn more about the event and purchase tickets at www.mha-nyc.org/2013gala

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MHA-NYC is a non-profit organization that addresses mental health needs in New York City and across the nation. It is a local organization with national impact and has a three-part mission of services, advocacy and education. For over 40 years, MHA-NYC has identified unmet needs and worked to develop culturally sensitive services and programs to improve lives while promoting the importance of mental wellness. www.mhaofnyc.org