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**Vibrant Emotional Health’s 26th Annual Gala Honors
Grammy-nominated Def Jam artist and Mental Health Advocate, Logic
and
Kevin J. Danehy, Global Head of Corporate Development at Brookfield**

Benefit Raises More Than \$700,000 for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

NEW YORK, June 26, 2018— Three hundred guests helped raise more than \$700,000 at the 26th Annual Benefit Gala of Vibrant Emotional Health (formerly the Mental Health Association of NYC) held on Tuesday, June 19, at the Winter Garden at Brookfield Place.

Vibrant Emotional Health, a non-profit organization that helps people achieve mental and emotional wellbeing and administers the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (Lifeline) for SAMHSA, celebrated two individuals who have taken leading action to increase mental health awareness and help save lives. The theme of this year’s Gala was “#BeThe1To Help Save a Life,” supporting mental wellness and suicide prevention. The honorees were:

- Grammy-nominated Def Jam artist and mental health advocate, [Logic](#), who generated international awareness with his hit single, “1-800-273-8255,” named after the Lifeline that is administered by Vibrant Emotional Health. Thanks to heightened public awareness and increased media attention, the Lifeline experienced record call volume, especially after Logic’s performances at the 2017 Video Music Awards and the 2018 Grammys, which included members of the Vibrant staff; and,
- Vibrant Board Member Kevin J. Danehy, Global Head of Corporate Development at Brookfield, who was honored for his nearly quarter of a century commitment to mental health in his role serving on the Board of Vibrant, including as Board Chair for 13 years. His leadership, passion, and unwavering commitment over the past 22 years have transformed the organization.

After a spirited opening conducted by emcees Bobby D. Ehlert and Erin Ward, Vibrant Board Chair Jennifer Ashley took the stage to welcome and thank the guests and the honorees, and to

share the recent full rebrand of the organization after more than 50 years of service. “I am proud and energized by our new name – Vibrant Emotional Health,” Ms. Ashley declared. “It reflects the changing dynamics about the future of mental health, which is not about suffering in silence due to shame and stigma. The future of mental health is about talking openly and honestly about our struggles in a society that accepts and values emotional health in the same way that it does physical health.”

Vibrant President & CEO Kimberly Williams acknowledged the deaths of Kate Spade and Anthony Bourdain, which catapulted the issue of suicide to the forefront of the world’s consciousness. “Suicide is now the tenth leading cause of death in the US and the second leading cause of death for all US teens and young adults,” Ms. Williams noted.

“Vibrant is committed to using our voice to help save lives, which is why we have chosen honorees who have taken action to promote emotional wellbeing and prevent suicide,” Ms. Williams said. “Vibrant and the Lifeline, launched a national campaign – #BeThe1To – to spread the message that everyone can take action to save a life. By empowering individuals with the tools to help people in crisis in their communities, we can support those who are struggling, demonstrate that suicide is not inevitable, and build a stronger mental health safety net for all.”

Music industry executive turned mental wellness advocate Shanti Das presented the award to Grammy-nominated Def Jam artist and mental health advocate, Logic. Ms. Das brought the audience to tears and to their feet as she recounted her struggle with her father’s suicide and her own struggles with depression, before a friend urged her to call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline three years ago. As founder of the philanthropy Silence the Shame, she praised Logic’s chart-topping song for sparking a much-needed conversation.

Logic sent a video thank you message, in which he acknowledged the heroic work of the Lifeline crisis centers. Fellow mental health advocate, Harris Schwartzberg, CEO, The Schwartzberg Companies, accepted the award on his behalf. Logic also launched a Facebook fundraiser for Vibrant coinciding with the gala, and offered tickets to one of his concerts along with packages of signed souvenirs for auction. Logic’s Facebook fundraiser exceeded its goal, raising over \$23,000 for Vibrant.

Former Vibrant Board member Ric Clark, Senior Managing Partner and the Chairman of Brookfield Property Group and Brookfield Property Partners, presented the award to Kevin J. Danehy, Global Head of Corporate Development at Brookfield, who was honored for his over 20 year commitment to saving lives.

Mr. Danehy delivered an impassioned acceptance speech thanking his family and the Vibrant community, with special recognition for the crisis counselors, peer specialists, and Lifeline staff on the Vibrant team. He chronicled his 22-year term of service on the Board, during which time he witnessed and participated in the growth of what was then-called the Mental Health Association of NYC into one of the leading providers of innovative mental health services, advocacy, and education across the country.

He also shared that he had been positively responsive to treatment for clinical depression, crediting the support of his family, friends and colleagues and of course his knowledge and advocacy for emotional wellness. “Thankfully, we have finally entered a new era in human history – a time in which we now accept that the health of our minds is as essential as the health of our bodies,” Mr. Danehy noted.

The gala dinner chairs were: Jennifer Ashley, Global Head of Human Resources, CBRE; Charles P. Fitzgerald, Senior Managing Partner, V3 Capital Management; and Jerome Levine, Partner, Loeb & Loeb LLP.

About Vibrant Emotional Health

Formerly the Mental Health Association of New York City (MHA-NYC), Vibrant Emotional Health is a non-profit organization that helps people achieve emotional wellbeing. For over 50 years, our groundbreaking solutions have delivered high-quality services and support, when, where and how people need it. We offer confidential emotional support through our state-of-the-art contact center and crisis hotline services that use leading edge telephone, text and web-based technologies and include the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, NFL Life Line and NYC Well. Through our community wellness programs individuals and families obtain supports and skills they need to thrive. Our advocacy and education initiatives promote mental wellbeing as a social responsibility. Each year we help more than 2.5 million people live healthier and more vibrant lives. We’re advancing access, dignity and respect for all and revolutionizing the system for good. Visit www.vibrant.org for more. And follow Vibrant on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

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Editor’s note: hi res jpeg images from the dinner are available upon request.