

Samuel Staten, Sr. Charitable Trust

Formerly the Laborers' District Council Charity Fund

18th Annual Charity Golf Classic

May 30, 2017

www.StatenCharitableTrust.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 26, 2017

Contact: Dana Brady

Blackman Brady Communications

Office: (267) 757-0726 Fax: (267) 757-0725

StatenCharitable@gmail.com

<u>Samuel Staten, Sr. Charitable Trust Presents \$5,000 Donation</u> to the Penn Pancreatic Cancer Research Center



Left Image: (from left to right) Mrs. Maria L. Vera (holding photograph of the late Esteban Vera, Sr.), Mr. Esteban Vera, Business Manager LIUNA Laborers' Local #57, Mrs. Nancy Mendez

Right Image: back row (from left to right) – Dana A. Brady, Development Director of the Samuel Staten, Sr. Charitable Trust and owner of Blackman Brady Communications; Mr. Esteban Vera, Business Manager LIUNA Laborers' Local #57; Mr. Perry N. Blackman, CPA, Member of the Samuel Staten, Sr. Charitable Trust's Board of Trustees; Dr. Mark H. O'Hara, MD, Assistant Professor Dept. of Medicine Hematology Oncology Division; Ms. Evelyn Schwartz, Director of Leadership Giving & Philanthropic Partnerships, Penn Medicine; front row (from left to right) - Mrs. Maria L. Vera (holding photograph of the late Esteban Vera, Sr.), Mrs. Nancy Mendez

Philadelphia, Pa. - The Samuel Staten, Sr. Charitable Trust, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, presented a \$5,000 donation to the Penn Pancreatic Cancer Research Center (Penn Medicine & Abramson Cancer Center) on Tuesday. Funds for this donation were raised at the 18th Annual Charity Golf Classic. This event raised a record breaking \$165,400, bringing the total raised in 18 years to over \$2.2 million. One of this year's honorees and recipient of the *Making A Difference* Award, Mr. Esteban Vera, Jr., Business Manager of LIUNA Laborers' Local #57, chose the Penn Pancreatic Cancer Research Center, a cause close to his heart, to be one of this year's donation recipients.

Perry Blackman, a member of the board of trustees, along with one of this year's Making A Difference Award recipients, Mr. Esteban Vera, Jr., Business Manager of LIUNA Laborers' Local #57 presented the

donation to Penn Medicine's Dr. Mark H. O'Hara, MD, Assistant Professor Dept. of Medicine Hematology Oncology Division, Ms. Evelyn Schwartz, Director of Leadership Giving & Philanthropic Partnerships, and Ms. Kristen Foca, Associate Director of Communications and Community Engagement. They were joined by Mr. Vera, Jr,'s mother, Maria L. Vera and sister, Nancy Mendez. The Vera family was personally touched by pancreatic cancer as Mr. Esteban Vera, Sr. passed on July 9, 2017 after a 15 month battle with this disease. To accompany the donation, the Vera family brought \$8,200 in funds raised in his father's memory at his funeral.

"When I learned I was going to be honored by the Samuel Staten, Sr. Charitable Trust, I immediately thought of Penn as where I would choose for my part of the donation to go," said Mr. Vera, Jr. "My father was currently being treated at Penn after a stage 4 pancreatic cancer diagnosis. He was able to attend the 18th Annual Charity Golf Classic and live for 15 months after his diagnosis because of Penn. I am grateful to have had that extra time with him."

"The researchers and clinicians here at Penn are greatly appreciative of this donation," Mark H. O'Hara, M.D. said. "It helps us improve treatment and expand research in innovative new ways and improve technology for the goals of earlier detection and more effective treatment of Pancreatic Cancer."

The Penn Pancreatic Cancer Research Center (PCRC) is committed to delivering high-quality care for patients with pancreatic cancer. They take a multidisciplinary approach — integrating Medical Oncology, Surgery, Gastroenterology, Radiation Oncology, and Pathology — to deliver comprehensive and personalized options to their patients. To learn more visit http://www.med.upenn.edu/pcrc/.

To learn more about the Samuel Staten, Sr. Charitable Trust visit www.StatenCharitableTrust.org.



Samuel Staten, Sr. About The Samuel Staten, Sr. Charitable Trust

The mission of The Samuel Staten, Sr. Charitable Trust is to provide a variety of services to the needy and otherwise underserved community members throughout the five county area of Philadelphia. This mission is achieved through a variety of fundraising events and activities. The Samuel Staten, Sr. Charitable Trust illustrates the power of organized labor to make a difference in our community. The Samuel Staten, Sr. Charitable Trust was known as The Laborers' District Council Charity Fund until 2011. The name of the charity was changed to honor Samuel Staten, Sr., the man who founded the LDC Charity Fund through a purely unselfish act of charity during his time as Business Manager of Laborers' Local 332 and Secretary Treasurer of the Laborers' District Council of the Philadelphia Metropolitan Area and Vicinity. The board is dedicated to continuing Mr. Staten, Sr.'s legacy of charitable giving. We will continue to spread his message and prove that organized labor truly makes a difference in the community! To find out more about the Samuel Staten, Sr. Charitable Trust, visit www.StatenCharitableTrust.org. Qualified students can apply for a scholarship from the Qa'id Staten Memorial Scholarship Fund by filling out the online application.

-###-