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**First Candle’s Charity Gala surpasses goals and celebrates the accomplishments of juvenile product industry leaders for promoting safe pregnancies and healthy babies.**

New York, October 29, 2014 – On Wednesday, October 22nd, two hundred and fifty of the most generous hearts across the country came together to unite their voices during the final week of Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month in New York City at the First Candle Charity Gala. First Candle is a leading national nonprofit dedicated to safe pregnancies and the survival of babies through the first years of life. Proceeds from the evening’s event will be used to support the organization’s research, education, advocacy and family support programs.

During the evening, First Candle CEO, Chris Blake, and Gala co-host, national family safety expert and TV personality Alison Jacobson, “[The Safety Mom](#)”, recognized the outstanding contributions of the following juvenile product and retail companies for their work in creating programs focused on educating parents about healthy pregnancies and safe sleep for babies:

- [Love to Dream/Regal Lager](#) for promoting infant safe sleep programs in day cares and child cares;
- [All Baby & Child](#) for promoting a national call for all photos used in advertising infant products to show those infants only in safe sleep settings;
- [Delta Children](#), for promoting infant safe sleep programs on our nation’s military bases;
- [Triboro Quilt Manufacturing](#) for promoting infant safe sleep materials sent home with newborns from hospital maternity wards around the country;
- [Toys “R” Us](#) for promoting safe sleep education on their e-commerce sites; and
- [The Boppy Company](#), for promoting infant safe sleep education to moms before, during and after they give birth.

This year’s Marian Sokol Award for the Advancement of Stillbirth Awareness and Prevention was presented to Sean Hanish writer and director of the Emmy nominated Lifetime film, [Return to Zero](#), and his wife Kiley. The film is based on their personal experience of having a stillborn son and is the first movie to tackle the taboo subject of stillbirth.

The First Candle Gala is an annual event to show our profound appreciation of all of our corporate partners, fellow charities and loyal donors who are passionate about making sure every baby can celebrate his or her first birthday.

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About First Candle: First Candle is a 47 year old national nonprofit dedicated to safe pregnancies and the survival of babies through the first years of life. With programs of research, education and advocacy, the organization is working to ensure that every baby is given the best possible chance to reach not only his or her first birthday, but many happy birthdays beyond. First Candle also provides compassionate grief support to all those affected by the death of a baby through a toll-free crisis hotline (1.800.221.7437). For more information or to make a donation, please visit [www.firstcandle.org](http://www.firstcandle.org) or call 443-640-1049.