The Hope for Depression Research Foundation (HDRF) held its annual New York Seminar and Luncheon on Monday, November 16, 2009 at “10 on the Park” at the Time Warner Center. Actress Brooke Shields accepted the inaugural “HOPE” Award for Depression Advocacy for her efforts to erase the negative stigma that surrounds depression and her courage in using her influence to redirect biased thinking about the use of medication and therapy to treat what is essentially a medical illness.

The event took a two-part approach. The first was a Scientific Seminar from 10:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., where two leading medical experts focused on one timely aspect of this multi-dimensional illness; “Depression: Its Relationship to Alcoholism and Substance Abuse.” A Question & Answer session followed, providing a unique opportunity to interact with doctors at this level.

Dr. Herbert Kleber, one of the foremost substance abuse authorities, gave the latest information about “Marijuana and Adolescence” at the luncheon from 12:00 until 2:00 p.m.
Attendees included Brooke Shields, HDRF founder and chairman, Audrey Gruss, co-chairs Anne Eisenhower, Jackie Drake, Lis Waterman, Junior co-chair, Coralie Charriol Paul as well as Debbie Bancroft, Amy Fine Collins, Beth Rudin DeWoody, Kim Heirston Evans, Somers Farkas, Lydia Fenet, Jamee Gregory, Gail Hilson, Karen LeFrak, Maggie Norris, Felicia Taylor, Veronica Webb, Adrienne Vittadini, among others.
Adrienne Vittadini, Jamee Gregory and Audrey Gruss.

Guest, Audrey Gruss, Kim Heirston.

Coralie Charriol-Paul.

Joanna Goldenstein.
Fruzsina Keehn.

Amy Fine Collins and Audrey Gruss.

Jean Shafiroff and Margo Langenberg.

Marcia Mishaan, Audrey Gruss.
Debbie Bancroft and Felicia Taylor.

Barbara Bancroft.

Veronica Webb.

Audrey Gruss, Peter Gregory and Jamee Gregory.

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