NASHVILLE, TN: (June 8, 2021) The Tramuto Foundation, a Maine-based non-profit created by Donato Tramuto, a global healthcare activist, philanthropist and author, will celebrate its milestone 20th anniversary on Saturday, Sept. 11, 2021 when nine partner organizations, including Lwala Community Alliance, will be honored for their continuing mission to create a more inclusive, equal and compassionate world.

Plans are currently being made to host the gala at the renowned Cliff House Resort in Cape Neddick. A final announcement as to whether the Gala will be in-person, virtual or hybrid, will be made this summer.

Guests, joining either virtually or in person, include journalist Katie Couric, former US Congressman Joseph P. Kennedy III, Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, actor Matt McCoy and a number of Fortune 50 CEOs, who will celebrate the work of nine organizations that have received more than $1 million in Tramuto Foundation grants. Each organization will share in the proceeds raised at the 20th Anniversary Gala that will also highlight more than 50 past recipients of the Tramuto Foundation’s annual college scholarship.

Tramuto, the author of “Life’s Bulldozer Moments: How Adversity Leads to Success in Business and Life,” has spent the past year interviewing some of the country’s top CEOs and political leaders, as well as community activists, teachers and ordinary people who lead by their compassionate example. Those interviews will be featured in his second book, ‘Profiles in Compassionate Leadership,’ which will be distributed to all guests attending the gala.

The evening will feature a live auction, offering a number of pre-paid vacation destinations in Maine, Nashville, Hawaii, Alaska, Oregon and Florence, Italy and each guest will receive a book commemorating 20 years of the Tramuto Foundation’s supporting partnerships with non-profit organizations throughout the United States and the globe.
One of the honored organizations, Lwala Community Alliance (headquartered in Nashville, TN), builds the capacity of rural communities to advance their own comprehensive wellbeing. Lwala was founded by Kenyans, and is community-driven.

Lwala’s community-led health model has led to a significant reduction in child mortality, a 98 percent skilled delivery rate, virtual elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, and gender parity in primary school completion. Plus, research published in 2020 shows that women in Lwala communities are 2.6 times more likely to use a family planning method, which translates to better outcomes for mothers and their babies.

With Tramuto Foundation's continued support, Lwala Community Alliance has decreased maternal and child mortality by increasing health access and quality and improving household food security and sanitation access.

In addition to Lwala Community Alliance, the evening’s nine honored organizations also include: Boston University School of Public Health, Good Shepherd Food Bank (Hampden, ME), Health eVillages (Marlborough, MA), Robert F. Kennedy Children’s Action Corps (Lancaster, MA), Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights (New York, NY), St. Joseph’s College, Institute for Integrative Aging (Standish, ME) Thomas Jefferson University - College of Population Health (Philadelphia, PA) and the Tramuto Foundation.

The Tramuto Foundation was created in 2001 following the death of Tramuto’s two close friends, Ron Gamboa and Dan Broadhurst, and their young son, David, who perished aboard Flight 175 on September 11, 2001, a flight that Tramuto was originally scheduled to board. In the aftermath of the tragedy, Tramuto and his partner, Jeff Porter, wanted to honor their friends’ memory in a way that would ease the heartbreak and grief caused by that horrific event, while making the future brighter for others.

The ‘Remember, Reflect and Hope,’ 20th Anniversary Gala will celebrate the families and friends, as well as the many individuals and organizations that have been supported by the Tramuto Foundation since its formation.

“Twenty years ago, I came up with the idea of memorializing my good friends by creating a foundation that would help other individuals and organizations dedicated to making this world more just and fair,” Tramuto said. “Although many people warned me that a new foundation would require a huge commitment of my time and that most organizations of this type do not endure, I stood my ground. This was too important to me and, as anyone who knows me understands, my commitment is my word.”

“Over the past 20 years the Tramuto Foundation has played an active role in supporting organizations in this country and around the world that lead with deep empathy and compassion as they fulfill their mission to improve the lives of others,” he added. “I sincerely hope that my friends would be proud of what we have accomplished in their memory.”
Tramuto created his second non-profit, Health eVillages (HeV), in 2011, following the earthquake that devastated the impoverished country of Haiti. Ten years later, HeV continues to provide up-to-date mobile medical technology and support to some of the most remote regions of the world.

For more information about the Tramuto Foundation’s 20th Anniversary Gala, please visit: http://tramutofoundation.com/gala/
For information about becoming an event sponsor, please contact Katie Eaton at Kathryn.eaton@healthevillages.com

**Tramuto Foundation:**
Since 2001, the Tramuto Foundation has helped tens of thousands of people realize the mission of creating a brighter future through student scholarships, as well as financial grants to organizations worldwide whose vision is to help right the wrong and make this world a better place for all. The Foundation has served as a voice in creating partnerships that have a sustainable and measureable impact in making the world more just and fair.
www.tramutofoundation.com

**Lwala Community Alliance:**
Founded by a group of committed Kenyans, Lwala Community Alliance is building the capacity of rural communities to advance their own comprehensive wellbeing. Lwala believes that communities have untapped potential to solve the world’s most pressing challenges. We connect community innovation with university-backed research to tackle the multidimensional causes of poor health. Backed by evidence of impact, we build coalitions of communities, frontline health workers, civil society, and government to advance high-quality health for all. This bottom-up change promises holistic solutions that are custom-built for the systems they are meant to reform.

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