



**Inn Board Member Debbie Dingell presents Richard T. Clark, Merck & Co. Inc. CEO and Mark Raabe, Merck Consultant and Inn Board Member with the Outstanding Philanthropic Partner Award.**

Merck and The Merck Company Foundation have played a major role in the history of The Children's Inn at NIH. Many corporations, individuals and foundations support The Inn, but Merck stands alone in its level of generosity during the past 20 years, committing more than \$15 million. Merck's partnership with The Children's Inn began when congressional spouses, also Founders of The Inn, were successful in obtaining a \$3.7 million capital gift from Merck to build The Inn. It was seen by Merck as the perfect partnership with the NIH, as Merck's mission as a global healthcare leader is working to help the world be well.

With this support, and the vision and determination of Merck, The Inn's Founders, and the NIH, The Inn became a reality in June of 1990 for the children and families who so desperately needed it.

In 2004, The Merck Company Foundation provided a leading gift for an expansion from 36 to 59 resident rooms. Recently, a new commitment-supporting families in need of transitional housing and services at The Woodmont House-continues this wonderful relationship between Merck and The Children's Inn.

"As we look back over the past 20 years, I can honestly say that The Inn would not exist without Merck," says Kathy L. Russell, a founding Board Member and current CEO of The Inn. "Every time we need their help, Merck and its Foundation have truly been there for us...and for the thousands of children and families who have benefitted from this special place. We can never thank them enough."