

BOWLING FOR A CAUSE

Jerry Azumah's ASAP Foundation

It was more than just a great night of bowling, cocktails, delicious eats, and a soundtrack that traced the mainstream 2000's era as well as retraced the '90s; it was a night of recognition for the reason the Azumah Student Assistant Program (ASAP) Foundation is truly a needed cause.

Former Chicago Bears cornerback and philanthropist Jerry Azumah founded the ASAP Foundation in 2004, with a focus to give back what was driven into him as a student growing up in Massachusetts—an education and a mentor, but mostly, opportunity.

The focus of this program has been to provide scholarships for disadvantaged students aspiring to a higher education and showing them the prosperous fundamentals and benefits of a private institution education.

Currently, the ASAP Foundation sponsors at-risk students at San Miguel schools and recently in 2010, Link Unlimited — both Illinois schools along with St. Peter Marian in his hometown of Worcester — with hopes to prosper nationally.

For the third year, the foundation hosted its annual signature fundraising event on May 18th at Lucky Strike Lanes downtown from 6-10 p.m.; and catered to a fully comfortable crowd of Chicago's movers and shakers, along with a host of Azumah's good friends and professional athletes.

Guests were greeted with an \$100 gift certificate courtesy Hennessey of Albert's Diamond Jewelers in Schererville, Indiana, free cocktails and drink specials sponsored by Hennessey Black, crafted by master mixologist Tim Williams, a plethora of fine cuisine complimentary of the Lucky Strike Lanes staff, and a whole section of lanes to bowl the night away while watching game two of the Bulls vs. Heat playoff series.

DJ Rock City kept the environment musically sound with tracks ranging from Slick Rick to reggae snippets. It was a perfect setting for game night and the elite of Chicago socialites.

The atmosphere was silhouetted with dark hues and bright smiles while attendees purchased raffle tickets ranging from \$5 to \$100.

This year's raffle ticket prizes included:

2012 Super Bowl tickets

White Sox tickets (Four tickets to the Oakland A's game, and four tickets to the Seattle Mariners game)

Goodman Theater tickets

Private in-home wine tasting for up to 14 people

Gift certificate to Sir & Madame Clothing Store

Concert tickets at the Venue provided by and at Horseshoe Casino

3-month membership to Fitness Formula Club

Gift certificate to Hub 51

Gift certificate to the Paris Club

Gift certificates from the finest restaurants, fitness centers and places around the city of Chicago, and plenty more!

(Look for future events and donation opportunities at www.theasapfoundation.org.)

(PHOTOS: PERCY OLLIE OF OLLIE PHOTOGRAPHY, INC.)



Actress Tai Davis



Jerry Azumah bowling



Chicago Bear Johnny Knox



Executives from Albert's Diamond Jewelers (l to r) Jacquelyn Nitzschke and Emma Roque



Chicago Bear Chris Harris bowling



Former Chicago Bear James "Big Cat" Williams



Former Chicago Bliss player Deborah Poles bowling



Jonathan Melman, Event Committee Member, R.J. Melman Jr., and former Chicago Bear, and ASAP Foundation founder, Jerry Azumah



DJ Rock City



Adrienne Imer and Chyla Wilson, the daughter of former Chicago Bear Otis Wilson



Event committee member Charise Williams and Time Out Chicago's Marketing Director Julie Hammer



Former NBA star Bobby Simmons



Albert's Diamond Jewelers VP, Josh Halpern