What’s the Chefs’ Celebrity Gala all about?
The gala is an elegant, annual event benefiting the Memphis Child Advocacy Center (CAC). The mission of the Memphis CAC is to respond and prevent child sexual abuse and other severe abuse in Shelby County.

What do I wear?
Wear fun cocktail attire and your dancing shoes!

Where do I park?
The Holiday Inn–University of Memphis provides free parking. You can enter at the front of the building or the east side door.

What time does it start?
The cash bar opens in the lobby at 6:30 pm; ballroom doors open at 7 pm.

Is there a program? What can I expect?
There is no formal program—but lots of fun to be had. Before the ballroom doors open, you’ll enjoy passed hors d’oeuvres, bidding on silent auction packages, and learning about Memphis CAC services at the Fund-A-Need board. The doors open to the ballroom and dinner at 7:00 pm. This is the best time to get your teddy bear surprise (see below for more info). You’ll enjoy an exquisite meal with paired wine. Andy Childs and his band will have you up on the dance floor for the rest of the night.

Is there a live auction?
No. You will be able to bid on silent auction packages and buy teddy bear surprises.

Tell me about the silent auction.
Our silent auction tables are full of packages that can include merchandise, gift cards, event tickets, recreational experiences, and more. Bidding begins when you arrive and closes at 9:45 pm. Check-out starts at 9:45 pm.

What is a teddy bear surprise?
It’s an adorable teddy bear that comes with a surprise assortment of gift certificates and merchandise. Teddy bear surprises may include jewelry, restaurant gift cards, tickets to concerts and sporting events, home accessories and weekend getaways. Teddy bear surprises sell for $250 and $500. The envelope tied to your bear lists all the goodies in your teddy bear surprise.
How do I choose my teddy bear surprise?
The teddy bears are displayed in front of the ballroom stage. When doors open at 7 pm, you may go to the stage and pick out a bear. Or, you can ask your celebrity server to select one for you.

When do I get my teddy bear surprise gifts?
Once you’ve paid for the teddy bear surprise, you or your celebrity server will go to the Teddy Bear Room to pick up your gifts. You may pay your celebrity server, pay yourself at the Teddy Bear Room, or pay at check-out beginning at 9:45 pm. Credit cards, checks and cash are accepted.

What is the Fund-a-Need board?
The board is filled with cards describing a service, for example a therapy session, and its cost printed on it. You can choose to fund one or more services by “buying” cards. CAC ambassadors will there to explain the different services. It’s another way to help the kids at the Memphis CAC.

What’s a celebrity server? Are they famous?
Celebrity servers are leaders in the community. Each table has two celebrity servers, plus the professional wait staff, to serve dinner, pour wine, accept tips and snag your teddy bear surprise. Their role is to make sure you have fun. Celebrity servers work for tips, which go to the Memphis Child Advocacy Center.

I’m interested in being a celebrity server. Tell me more.
Contact Tiffany Hoggan at 901.888.4383 or thoggan@MemphisCAC.org. Servers arrive at 6pm to don aprons and nametags, review the instructions, hear the chefs describe the menu, and enjoy the same delicious gourmet meal as the guests at the server reception.

Can I buy a ticket to the gala?
Individual tickets are not available. You can sponsor a table for 10 for $3000. This is a great opportunity to treat clients, staff, or friends to a fun evening benefitting the Memphis CAC.

How do I sponsor a table?
Contact Tiffany at 901-888-4383 or thoggan@MemphisCAC.org to sponsor a table of 10 for $3000. If you’re interested in other ways to sponsor gala, contact Su at 901-888-4359 or shartline@MemphisCAC.org.