



**NEW FRIENDS  
NEW LIFE**  
Transforming the lives of women  
and their children

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NEW FRIENDS NEW LIFE restores and empowers formerly trafficked teen girls and sexually exploited women and their children.

**Circle of Friends President:** Christa Brown Sanford

**Circle of Friends Board**

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**PLANNED GIVING**

Please consider donating gifts of stock or monetary funds in your estate planning. Your gift will change lives for generations to come. **Contact Kelly Cruse at [kcruse@newfriendsnewlife.org](mailto:kcruse@newfriendsnewlife.org).**

**STAY CONNECTED**

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-  Sign up for email updates at [newfriendsnewlife.org](https://newfriendsnewlife.org)

Help us make Texas a "no-zone" for human trafficking. Follow us on social channels and spread the word using the hashtags, #EndIt and #WeSeeYou.

# NEW FRIENDS NEWS

SPRING 2015 UPDATE



## 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WINGS LUNCHEON FEATURING KEVIN COSTNER RAISES MUCH-NEEDED AWARENESS AND SUPPORT

*Jeanne L. Phillips, Ruth Altshuler, Former First Lady Laura Bush, and Kevin Costner celebrate the success of the 2015 WINGS Luncheon.*

New Friends New Life netted more than \$1.1 million of critical funding to support victims of human trafficking and commercial exploitation during the 12th Annual WINGS Luncheon on Friday, April 10. The luncheon featured two-time Academy Award-winning actor, director, and producer Kevin Costner in an interview format with producer Gary Cogill. ProtectHer awards were presented to The Letot Girls' Residential Treatment Center, Texas Department of Public Safety's Criminal Investigations Division Human Trafficking Squad, and Sabre. The launch of the Men's Advocacy Group was announced by Men's Advocacy Group Chair Chris

Kleinert. Luncheon chair, the Honorable Jeanne L. Phillips, joined honorary co-chairs Ruth Altshuler and former First Lady Laura Bush, as well as board chair Nancy Ann Hunt, in the nonprofit's biggest fundraiser to date.

"New Friends New Life is about protecting the most vulnerable citizens of our city – our children," said Jeanne L. Phillips. "With an estimated 400 teens on the streets each night as targets of human traffickers, it is upon each of us who care about Dallas to send the message, 'not our children, not our city.'"

## A Note From Katie Pedigo

Spring is about new beginnings - a powerful reminder of how something that once appeared "dead" can find new life. At New Friends New Life, we strive to offer each individual we serve a chance at new life filled with vibrancy and hope.

We could not do that without your support, and I'd like to say thank you to all involved with our WINGS Luncheon, including our event chairs, sponsors, board members, host committee members, volunteers, attendees and, of course, Gary Cogill and Kevin Costner. Ambassador Phillips assembled an all-star team that helped raise pivotal funding and awareness around the issue of human trafficking. Her enthusiasm and passion for New Friends New Life and those we serve took WINGS to a whole new level.

Following the luncheon, we continued the fight against human trafficking and testified to the Texas Criminal Jurisprudence Committee in support of legislation co-authored by Rep. Tan Parker and Rep. Morgan Meyer that would combat injustice and protect victims.

We also are elated to announce expanded nationwide leadership and training on trafficking issues, as well as increased



New Friends New Life staff and supporters meet with Governor Greg Abbott in Austin to advocate for laws against human trafficking in Texas.

programming for teens, including deeper collaborations with law enforcement and partnering service providers to help the girls overcome the abuse and trauma they endured. We are proud to work with the community in saying to the victims, "we see you."

## Family Support Group

The five-week Family Support Group allows mothers to come together in community to receive information, support, and encouragement in their leadership roles with their children. In collaboration with their peers and counselors, mothers learn effective bonding and discipline techniques and are empowered to break the cycle of exploitation and abuse through support and education.

## Man O' Man...A New Era Cometh

2015 marks a first in the 18-year history of New Friends New Life. By developing a Men's Advocacy Group led by distinguished Dallas leaders, a new era dawns that further supports the organization's mission. The excitement behind this movement is unmistakable as men come forward with words of encouragement and interest to serve.

New Friends New Life will announce its inaugural Men's Advocacy Group Board of Directors in May. This group's mission is to mobilize men to become actively involved in raising awareness, encouraging volunteerism, and building new strategies for men to effect change and act against human trafficking and sexual exploitation. As Chris Kleinert, Chair of the Men's Advocacy Group said, "This group of men says to victims 'we stand behind you. We stand beside you. And if need be, we will stand in front of you to make sure you are protected and can heal.'"

New Friends New Life believes men desire to be an active part of the solution to this human rights issue. To learn more, visit our website, email us at [men@newfriendsnewlife.org](mailto:men@newfriendsnewlife.org), or contact Bill Morse at 214-800-2842.



Men's Advocacy Group members Brad Cheves, Bret Pedigo, Bill Morse, Chris Kleinert and Dr. R. Gerald Turner join together to take a stand for victims of human trafficking. Not pictured: Dr. Terrence Autry.

## ManUp

Man Up is a bimonthly mentor group for middle school boys led by a licensed male therapist and a community volunteer to challenge young men to define manhood through integrity, commitment, and sacrifice as modeled by the character of Jesus Christ.

## New Friends New Life Partners With YWCA

To address specific needs related to managing finances and attaining financial security as women are making significant life transitions, New Friends New Life partners with the YWCA's Financial Empowerment program. For additional information, please visit [newfriendsnewlife.org](http://newfriendsnewlife.org).

Therapists utilize the New Friends New Life Children's Room for mentorship, as well as family and play therapy with the families and kids in our program.

## Board of Directors

Robin Bagwell  
Nancy Best  
Christa Brown  
Sanford  
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Nancy Ann Hunt,  
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Chris Kleinert  
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Patricia LaSalle

Pat Lawson  
Wendy Messmann  
Deb Outlaw  
Pat Schenkel  
Paula Stein

Kay Thomason  
Lisa Troutt  
Gail Turner  
Christi Urschel

## Play Therapy

New Friends New Life's children's therapists regularly utilize play therapy: an internationally recognized practice for developing emotional intelligence and self-control while helping children to reprocess traumatic circumstances or events, building resilience to enable a healthy future.

