



Elin Nordegren Named Hero of Hope for Foster Children

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*Elin Nordegren*

Place of Hope will introduce a new element to its annual **Hope Bash** (Palm Beach Gardens) this year, in naming local philanthropist and child advocate **Elin Nordegren** as its inaugural **Harris L. Weinstein** "Hero of Hope" for her dedicated support of children in need.

Along with her close friend, Nicole Henry, Nordegren served as co-chair of the 2013 Hope Bash, "Jeans & Jewels: Palm Beach Nights." An international figure, Nordegren agreed to volunteer and co-chair after being introduced to Place of Hope through Henry.

"My friends volunteered for mentoring programs at Place of Hope; and, as I listened to their incredible experiences, I became more and more intrigued about also being involved," she said. "I have been interested in Child Psychology for most of my life, and when I learned Place of Hope focuses on the psychological well-being of foster children, I felt this organization was a very good fit for me."

Nordegren will be honored at the 2015 Hope Bash, which will have the theme of "Angels of Hope," and will be held Feb. 20 at PGA National Resort & Spa. Co-chaired by Sue Ende of Palm Beach Gardens and Jill Fried of Juno Beach, the event will feature a live and silent auction, dinner and dancing, and a special donation of artwork for auction from Chisolm Art Studio/Gallery of West Palm Beach. The artwork, valued at \$15,000, is titled, "Layers in Time," a pastel spring, acrylic paint, plastic and epoxy on canvas, and will be displayed at the Hope Bash Pre-Party on Feb. 12 at the gallery, 502 Palm St., Suite 3.

"Angels" was selected as the theme this year to recognize all the different people who give of their time and energy to help the abused, neglected and abandoned children who call Place of Hope home. The campus in Palm Beach Gardens is a close-knit neighborhood of foster families, which serves as Place of Hope's regional headquarters. Additionally, Place of Hope helps youth who age out of foster care transition into adulthood through its Villages of Hope and Extended Foster Care programs. Young mothers and pregnant young women find support and learn skills for successful adulthood at Joann's Cottage on the Villages of Hope campus.

Sponsors of Hope Bash 2015 include Jason and Lauren Boyle, the Berlin Family Foundation, the Fried family, the Jon and Nellie Bastien Memorial Foundation, the C. Kenneth and Laura Baxter Foundation, Lexus Palm Beach, the Frankino Charitable Foundation, The Resource Group, Stuart and Maria Fife, Moratta Realty, Mike Bober, the Hoffman family, the Hardwick family, the Ende family, David and Gail Hess, Conlan/Christiansen family, Celedinas Insurance Group, Anderson Tax, Chad Labonte and Erin Rossitto, Kolter Homes, FP&L, BNY Mellon, the Nocera family, the Conlan family, UBS Financial Services/the Smithy family, the Kitchen Strand, Sina Family Holdings, Sal and Kim Tiano, McCraney Property, Blessed Boutique, BMO Private Bank, Michael Peragine, L.B. Rowe Pools, HMY Yachts, Chris and Deanna Cerniglia, the Abrams family, the Speh family, the Green family, Onshore Construction & Development, Inc., Kolter Homes, Bernstein Global Wealth Management, Darline Richter, and Gulfstream Media Group.

Proceeds from the gala fundraiser benefit the programs and operations of Place of Hope, named one of 11 charities that changed the world in 2014 by *The Huffington Post*. With campuses in Palm Beach Gardens, West Palm Beach and Boca Raton and new offices in Hobe Sound, Place of Hope is a faith-based, state-licensed child welfare organization that provides family-style foster care (emergency and long-term); family outreach and intervention; maternity care; safety for domestic minor sexually trafficked victims; transitional housing and support services; adoption and foster care recruitment and support; hope and healing opportunities for children and families who have been traumatized by abuse and neglect.

The **2015 Hope Bash** will begin at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$300 per person. For more information, visit online at www.placeofhope.com or contact Amyleigh Atwater at 561-775-7195.