MARK GREENBERG TO BE HONORED AT THE HELP GROUP’S TEDDY BEAR BALL

Monday, March 6, 2017 at The Beverly Hilton

The Help Group is pleased to announce that Mark Greenberg, President & Chief Executive Officer of EPIX, will be the recipient of its 2017 Help Humanitarian Award in recognition of his outstanding spirit of philanthropy and commitment to our children. The 19th Annual Teddy Bear Ball will take place on Monday, March 6 at The Beverly Hilton Hotel International Ballroom.

This year’s Gala Chairs are Bob Bakish, Chief Executive Officer, Viacom; Gary Barber, Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, MGM; Kevin Beggs, Chairman, Lionsgate Television Group; Michael Burns, Vice Chairman, Lionsgate; Jon Feltheimer, Chief Executive Officer, Lionsgate; Brad Grey, Chairman & Chief Executive Officer of Paramount Pictures Corporation; Mike Hopkins, Chief Executive Officer, Hulu; Michael Kassan, Founder & Chief Executive Officer, MediaLink; and Sandra Stern, President, Lionsgate TV Group. Teddy Bear Ball Gala Co-Chairs are Ken Solomon, Help Group Board Member and Circle of Friends board members Dick Costello, Jamie & Chris McGurk and David Salzman.

An early architect in the transformation of television networks across new platforms and technologies, Mark is part of the founding team and created the strategic blueprint for EPIX, the first network designed for linear TV, on demand and online viewing. Under his direction, the network’s rapid growth set records by turning profitable within the first year of its launch. Adapting the distribution model for films, he has brought Hollywood hits to pay TV earlier and extended the length of premium windows.

(Continued on Page 3)
Dear Friends,

We’re delighted to share this winter edition of HelpLine with you with all the news and happenings at The Help Group.

In September, we teed off at our 25th Annual Keyes for Kids Teddy Bear Golf Classic, a record-breaking success honoring Warren de Haan. In October, The Help Group Summit on Autism, Learning Disabilities and ADHD convened 25 of our nation’s leading experts at the Skirball Cultural Center to present their very latest research and clinical expertise to more than 500 parents and professionals. We ended the year with a wonderful Holiday Carnival for families in need served by The Help Group.

On March 6, The Help Group will honor Mark Greenberg, President and CEO of EPIX, with the Help Humanitarian Award at the Teddy Bear Ball. We hope you’ll join us at the Beverly Hilton for a gala evening to benefit the children.

We are immensely grateful to you for supporting our efforts on behalf of young people with special needs. Best wishes for a very happy 2017.

Best regards,

Gary H. Carmona ~ Dr. Barbara Firestone

A MESSAGE TO OUR FRIENDS
MARK GREENBERG TO BE HONORED AT THE HELP GROUP’S TEDDY BEAR BALL

A leader in TV everywhere, Mark has overseen the rapid expansion of EPIX across hundreds of new consumer devices, including first to launch on Xbox, PlayStation®, and Roku®, which has resulted in significant increases in TV authentication for cable, satellite and telco partners. Under his leadership, EPIX programming is award winning, receiving multiple award nominations for original documentaries, scripted series, live music and comedy events.

The Teddy Bear Ball is attended by hundreds of entertainment and community leaders and features special performances by the children of The Help Group. This time-honored tradition celebrates the beauty and potential of the children whose lives are touched by the spirit of giving that is at the heart of Teddy Bear Ball.
The 25th Annual Keyes for Kids Teddy Bear Golf Classic honoring Warren de Haan was a record-breaking success. The Classic took place on September 26 at Valencia Country Club.

After a great day on the greens, at the Lockton Insurance Awards Reception, The Help Group presented its Help Fore Children Humanitarian Award to Warren in recognition of his humanitarian spirit and commitment to our children. With more than 20 years of experience in the commercial real estate finance industry and capital markets, Warren is the founder and managing partner at ACORE Capital.

This year’s Co-Chairs included John Brady, Managing Director & Portfolio Manager, Oaktree Capital Management and 2013 Golf honoree; Christopher Chee, CTC Capital Partners LLC; Victor Coleman, Chairman & CEO, Hudson Pacific Properties; Boyd Fellows, Founder, ACORE Capital; Jonathan Firestone, Managing Director, Eastdil Secured; Michael Hackman, Founder & CEO, Hackman Capital; Michael May, Senior Managing Director, CCRE and 2015 Golf honoree; Jonathan Pollack, Senior Managing Director, Blackstone and 2014 honoree; Michael Rosenfeld, Founder & CEO, Woodridge Capital Partners and 2011 Golf honoree; Jesse Sharf, Partner in the Century City office, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher and Co-Chair of the firm’s Real Estate Department and 2009 Golf honoree; Judd Swarzman, Judd Swarzman & Associates and Help Group Board Member; Howard Tenenbaum, Vice President, Keyes Automotive Group and Help Group Board Executive Vice Chair; and Michael Van Konyenburg, President, Eastdil Secured.

Jesse Sharf lent a hand in emceeing the program. Jesse introduced a special performance by The Help Group Choir and welcomed auctioneer Michael Hackman. Michael led a spirited live auction with items generously donated by Michael Rosenfeld of Woodridge Capital Partners, Jeff Worthe of Worthe Real Estate Group and Keyes Automotive Group.
Jonathan Firestone and Michael May introduced their friend and colleague Warren, and thanked him for being a true champion for the children of The Help Group.

“Thank you, Warren, for giving of yourself, your family, your friends, your clients and everyone else who stepped up to be part of today,” said Jonathan. “A true man’s worth is not what he earns, but what he gives, and you, Warren, have given so much.”

In his acceptance remarks, Warren thanked The Help Group for the honor, as well as his family, friends and colleagues for their tremendous support. “It’s quite remarkable that this is the 25th anniversary of this golf event, and it’s the 41st anniversary of The Help Group,” remarked Warren. “The fact that we were able to raise so much money for this event just goes to show there’s a lot of great people out there, and this is a fantastic cause. Seeing the children sing today, there was hardly a dry eye in the audience - it’s a pretty astounding thing we have going on here.”

Dr. Firestone thanked Warren for having such a special place in his heart for children with special needs and announced the naming of The de Haan Family Science Lab at The Help Group’s new STEM3 Academy in Valley Glen.

At the reception, Dr. Firestone acknowledged Gary H. Carmona, Help Group Board Chair, Judd Swarzman and Howard Tenenbaum, Help Group Board Members, with the Founders Award. “This award recognizes your long-standing leadership and dedication to our Golf Classic since the first tournament 25 years ago,” said Dr. Firestone. “Our thanks for all you have done in support of the children throughout the years.”

Our many thanks and appreciation to the de Haan Family, Keyes, Lockton, our chairs, sponsors and donors who helped make the 25th annual Golf Classic an unforgettable hole-in-one for the kids!
On Friday, October 14 and Saturday, October 15 at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles, The Help Group Summit convened 25 leading experts in basic and applied research, and evidence-based best practices in assessment, intervention and treatment for autism, learning disabilities and ADHD.

The conference was chaired by Dr. Barbara Firestone; Dr. Peter C. Whybrow, UCLA Semel Institute Director; and Dr. Robert M. Bilder, UCLA Semel Institute Chief of Medical Psychology-Neuropsychology and Tennenbaum Center Director.

At the morning convocation, Dr. Firestone welcomed guests and acknowledged Major Sponsors, First 5 California and First 5 LA for their generous support, and to Media Sponsors NBC4 and LA Parent. Dr. Firestone extended her gratitude to the Summit speakers for sharing their expertise with the 500 guests.

During the luncheon proceedings, Dr. Firestone presented the Champion for Children Award to The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf® for its 15-year partnership in promoting autism awareness and supporting The Help Group’s autism programs. “The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf® is truly a role model of excellence and has a tremendous impact on the communities it serves,” said Dr. Firestone. “We are most grateful to Coffee Bean for its longstanding commitment to the children of The Help Group.”

In his acceptance remarks, John Fuller, President and CEO of The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf®, remarked...
how pleased Coffee Bean is to have partnered with The Help Group for all of these years in support of the wonderful work they do for young people with special needs and that they have already begun planning for 2017.

Dr. Firestone acknowledged The W.M. Keck Foundation for its recent major grant to The Help Group’s STEM³ Academy. This gift from the Foundation will help to significantly expand STEM³’s nationally acclaimed model that enables students with social and learning differences to acquire the skill sets that will prepare them for jobs in STEM related fields and to lead more independent, productive and rewarding lives.

Thanks to our tremendous speakers the Summit was a great success. Mark your calendar for Summit 2017 - October 13 and 14 at the Skirball Cultural Center.
On Saturday, December 10, The Help Group’s annual Holiday Carnival made the season extra special for hundreds of children and their families served by The Help Group’s Family-Centered Support Programs, Mental and Clinical Programs and Residential Services.

The Sherman Oaks Campus became an enchanted winter wonderland where everyone enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon of games, rides, food, music, arts & crafts, and a special visit with Santa Claus. Hasbro continued their longtime tradition of donating toys and games so that every child could take home a wrapped holiday gift. The sponsors included The Firestone Family, Keyes Automotive, Lasky Family, Monkarsh Family, Ruggieri Family, and Anthony & Jeanne Pritzker Family Foundation along with The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf® who served hot holiday beverages to add to the festivities.

Our heartfelt thanks to all our sponsors, staff and 120 volunteers for making this such a special day.
In September, Pamela Shoenberg generously and graciously hosted a month long exhibition of our Village Glen students, Inside Out, at her dnj gallery at Bergamot station. The exhibit kicked off an opening night reception on September 10 for the artists, their families, faculty members and friends, on the evening of Bergamot Station Art Center’s Fall Opening.

The photo exhibit showcased a multi-year project aimed at providing the environment, tools and teaching to encourage students to find their creative voice through photography and writing. At the end of each project, students participated in a collaborative portrait session led by Help Group Senior Clinical Director, Pat Sandler with Help Group Art Educator Dr. Kelly Kotowski. Students like Robert, age 17, would then tell Pat what they thought when looking at themselves.

“A lot of people don’t know that I see the universe in another way,” Robert said. “I see myself as someone with a lot of untapped potential. I want the world to see the universe the way I see it. I want them to see there is love, courage, potential, heart, soul, spirit and hope. Hope for the future.”

“I believe that every child has a voice and it’s our job as educators to help them find it,” Pat said. “That’s what drove me in this project.”

This exhibition gave our students an unforgettable opportunity to shine. A special thanks to Pat Sandler, Dr. Kelly Kotowski and Pamela Schoenberg. Our congratulations to all of the students who participated in Inside Out.

Pamela Shoenberg, owner and director, dnj Gallery with Pat Sandler

Student photographer Ian with his family

Dr. Kelly Kotowski, Dr. Barbara Firestone, Pat Sandler, and Pamela Clark, Help Group Director Autism Schools
HELP GROUP STUDENTS TAKE HOME THE GOLD IN SPECIAL OLYMPICS AT CAMPBELL HALL

On October 24, The Help Group’s Bridgeport School teamed up with Special Olympics for an incredible day of sports at Campbell Hall School in North Hollywood. Seventy-seven enthusiastic students from The Help Group played soccer, ran through obstacle courses and participated in a host of other fun activities joined by 125 student volunteers from Campbell Hall.

“My son had a blast! And it was so touching to see the interaction between the Campbell Hall students and our kids,” commented a Help Group parent.

Pamela Clark, Director of Autism Schools at The Help Group, added, “Our students were very proud of their achievements today and thoroughly enjoyed their time with their Campbell Hall buddies. Campbell Hall welcomed our students with open arms and cheered them on at every event.”

Echoing similar thoughts, Kim Villa, Program Specialist for the Special Olympics Santa Clarita & Tri-Valley Region, said the highlight was seeing the tremendous support the students gave to one another. “I commend The Help Group and Campbell Hall for making this day a success for all the young people here today.”

Our many thanks to Special Olympics, Campbell Hall Headmaster Julian Bull and Campbell Hall 9th Grade Associate Dean Kevin Kelley and all of the volunteers, students, and teachers.

FAMILIES ENJOY AN AFTERNOON OF DISNEY MUSIC AT THE HELP GROUP

On Sunday November 13, talented vocalist and actress Holly Sedillos appeared at the Music for Autism concert at The Help Group’s Autism Center in Sherman Oaks. Joining her on stage were gifted performers Amber Mercomes, Tim Hearl and Dylan Gentile.

Music for Autism concerts offer a unique opportunity for young people with autism and their families to experience the joy and power of music. The Help Group is proud to be the West Coast affiliate of the New York-based nonprofit Music for Autism.

During the show, the audience danced, helped conduct the musicians and played soft percussion instruments. “Today was a beautiful experience to share the music we love with everyone here today,” reflected Holly after the show.

Be sure to follow The Help Group on Facebook for information about future Music for Autism concerts.
Founded in 1975, The Help Group is the largest, most innovative and comprehensive nonprofit of its kind in the United States serving children, adolescents and young adults with special needs related to autism spectrum disorder, learning disabilities, ADHD, developmental delays, abuse and emotional challenges.

The Help Group’s ten specialized day schools offer pre-K through high school programs for more than 1,600 students. Its broad range of mental health and therapy services, child abuse and residential programs extends its reach to more than 6,000 children and their families each year. With more than 980 staff members, The Help Group’s state-of-the-art schools and programs are located on six campuses in the Los Angeles area.
Founded in 1975, The Help Group is the largest, most innovative and comprehensive nonprofit of its kind in the United States serving children, adolescents and young adults with special needs related to autism spectrum disorder, learning disabilities, ADHD, developmental delays, abuse and emotional challenges.

The Help Group’s ten specialized day schools offer pre-K through high school programs for more than 1,600 students. Its broad range of mental health and therapy services, child abuse and residential programs extends its reach to more than 6,000 children and their families each year. With more than 980 staff members, The Help Group’s state-of-the-art schools and programs are located on six campuses in the Los Angeles area.

The Help Group is widely regarded for its high standards of excellence, unique scope and breadth of services. Through its public awareness, professional training and parent education programs and efforts at the state and national levels, The Help Group touches the lives of young people with special needs across the country and in other parts of the world.

At the heart of its efforts is the commitment to helping young people fulfill their potential to lead positive, productive and rewarding lives.

**Schools**
- Village Glen School · Bridgeport School · Bridgeport Vocational Education Center · Sunrise School
- Young Learners Preschool · STEM³ Academy
- Summit View School · Westview · North Hills Prep · Parkhill School

**Programs**
- The Help Group · UCLA Autism Research Alliance · The Help Group · UCLA Neuropsychology Program
- The Help Group · USC Occupational Science Initiative · Advance LA · Live.Advance.LA.
- Project Six/The Commons · Kids Like Me Recreational Programs & Camps · club i.a./club i.a. TEEN
- Paws and Pals for Kids with Autism · The Help Group Child & Family Center
- The Help Group Center for Autism Spectrum Disorder

**Campuses**
- CULVER CITY · SHERMAN OAKS EAST · SHERMAN OAKS WEST
- VALLEY GLEN · VAN NUYS · SATICOY · VAN NUYS · SHERMAN WAY

For more information on these and other events, please call 818.779.5212