MIKE HOPKINS AND TOM KOMP TO BE HONORED AT THE HELP GROUP'S TEDDY BEAR BALL

Wednesday December 9, 2015 at The Beverly Hilton

The Help Group is pleased to announce that Mike Hopkins, Chief Executive Officer of Hulu, will be recognized with its 2015 Help Humanitarian Award at the 18th Annual Teddy Bear Ball on December 9 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. That same night, Tom Komp, Senior Vice President of The Help Group, will be recognized with the Champion for Children Award.

This year’s Gala Chairs are Rich Battista, Executive VP of Time Inc.; John Landgraf, President and General Manager of FX Network; Steve Mosko, Chairman of Sony Pictures Television; Eric Shanks, President, COO and Executive Producer of FOX Sports; and Ben Sherwood, Co-Chair, Disney Media Networks and President, Disney-ABC Television Group. Teddy Bear Ball Co-Chairs are Ken Solomon, Help Group Board Member, and Circle of Friends Board members, Dick Costello, Jamie & Chris McGurk and David Salzman.

On this special evening, The Help Group will salute Mike Hopkins for his outstanding humanitarian spirit and commitment to our children. A media veteran who brings more than 20 years of video experience to Hulu, Mike has an accomplished track record of both building innovative television products and negotiating landmark distribution agreements. While President of Distribution for Fox Networks, he oversaw Fox Networks broadcast distribution agreements, and the strategy, sales and marketing for Fox's 45 linear and non-linear U.S. cable networks. Under his leadership, his team also developed many of the television industry’s leading authenticated and digital video products, including BTN2Go, FXNOW, FOX Sports Go, and FOX NOW. Mike served as a member of the Hulu board for over two years prior to being named CEO, and holds a number of leadership roles in industry organizations.

The Help Group is proud to recognize its 2015 Champion for Children Award recipient, Tom Komp. Tom’s long-standing and remarkable efforts have touched the lives of countless children with special needs and their families. For more than 20 years, he has made significant contributions to the development of The Help Group’s educational and therapeutic programs.

The Teddy Bear Ball is attended by several hundred entertainment and community leaders and features special performances by the children of The Help Group. This year, we’re pleased

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A MESSAGE TO OUR FRIENDS

Dear Friends,

We’re pleased to share this special holiday edition of HelpLine with you. With our annual Teddy Bear Ball just around the corner, we’re delighted to announce that Halis’s Mike Hopkins will be our Help Humanitarian Award honoree, and The Help Group’s very own, Tom Komp, will be this year’s Champion for Children honoree.

This fall, The Help Group opened its 10th school – STEM3 Academy. This innovative day school program is designed to prepare students with social differences related fields. Our Keyes for Kids Teddy Bear Golf Classic is designed to prepare students with social differences.

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The program also included Golf Classic co-chair and 2009 Golf honoree Jesse Sharf, of the firm Gibson Dunn, who introduced a special performance by the Children’s Choir. The choir performed a song with Michael with spirited high-fives at the end. Michael Hackman, Founder & CEO of Hackman Capital, led a lively and successful auction of trips, classrooms and our teddy bears for the Dr. Adam Opportunity Fund. Auction items were generously donated by Oaktree Capital Management & Michael Rosenfeld of Woodridge Capital Partners, and Keys Automotive Group. Dr. Susan Berman, COO of The Help Group spoke about the Opportunity Fund and introduced student speaker, Kameron.

This year’s Golf Classic Co-chairs included, John Brady, Managing Director & Portfolio Manager for Oaktree Capital Management; Lawrence Britvan, Senior Managing Director, CCRE; Victor Coleman, Chairman & CEO, Hudson Pacific Properties; Jonathan Firestone, Managing Director, Eastdil Secured; Michael Hackman, Founder & CEO, Hackman Capital; Michael Lehrman, Executive Managing Director and Co-Chief Executive Officer of CCRE; Anthony Orso, Co-Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder of CCRE; Michael Rosenfeld, Founder and CEO of Woodridge Capital Partners and 2011 Golf honoree; Jonathan Schurgin, West Coast Lending, CCRE; Jesse Sharf, Partner, Century City, Gibson Dunn; Judd Swarzman, Judd Swarzman & Associates and Help Group Board Member; Howard Tenenbaum, Vice President of Keys Automotive Group and Help Group Board Executive Vice Chair; and Michael Van Konyenburg, President, Eastdil Secured.

Grand sponsors of this year’s event included, CCRE, Hudson Pacific Properties, Dechert LLP, DLA Piper and Cadenalder. Our many thanks to Michael, Keys Automotive Group, Lockton Insurance, our Golf Classic Chairs, sponsors and participants for their terrific efforts and incredible support!
This fall, The Help Group opened its 10th school - STEM3 Academy, a new innovative middle and high school that’s the first of its kind in the country, serving students with social and learning differences with a passion for science and technology within the greater Los Angeles area. The mission of STEM3 Academy is to connect the particular strengths of students with social and learning differences, including autism, with an innovative and rigorous STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) curriculum that positions students for future success. The school, which has received national attention due to its unique mission, provides a rich and varied curriculum designed to develop the natural skills and abilities of its students in STEM-related disciplines.

“The Help Group is thrilled to open this truly unique school. The opening of STEM3 Academy promises to change life options for students,” said Dr. Susan Berman, COO of The Help Group. “The next generation of scientists and engineers are sitting in our classrooms. We’re helping these students realize their full potential and preparing them to fill high-quality jobs.”

As many as 85 percent of adults with social and learning differences are either unemployed or underemployed, yet there will be 8.65 million STEM-related jobs available by 2018. STEM3 Academy uniquely prepares its students to take advantage of the opportunities available in STEM-related fields after graduation.

“The Help Group opens its 10th school this fall”

745x742
THE HELP GROUP OPENS ITS 10TH SCHOOL THIS FALL

877.943.5747  |  www.thehelpgroup.org

CULVER CITY  |  SHERMAN OAKS EAST  |  SHERMAN OAKS WEST
VALLEY GLEN  |  VAN NUYS - SATICOY  |  VAN NUYS - SHERMAN WAY

1214x1214
Our Newest School

Village Glen School
Bridgeport School
Bridgeport Vocational Education Center
Young Learners Preschool
Sunrise School
North Hills Prep
Parkhill School
Summit View School

ASSESSMENT
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS
18+ PROGRAMS
COACHING
SOCIAL SKILLS TRAINING
PARENT EDUCATION
AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT
DAY CAMPS

STEM3 Academy's Innovation Lab is both physically and conceptually at the heart of the school – an engaging space where students have the tools to conduct hands-on experiments. Students have computed the variables for projectile motion and then tested to see if their projectiles hit the intended target. Upper-level environmental science students are constructing a mobile hydroponics unit, and middle and high school students are learning how to use the lab’s hand, power and machine tools for robotics engineering. STEM3 Academy also offers classes in CAD (Computer Aided Design) so that students can create graphical representations of custom objects and print them out on the school’s 3D printer.

Last year, as part of a pilot program within Village Glen School, the Robotics team won the FIRST Robotics Competition Rookie All-Star Award in the regional contest, and competed in the FIRST Robotics World Championship in St. Louis.

The response from students has been overwhelmingly positive. “The technology the school provides, particularly the 3D printer, has given me the opportunity to be creative, and being on the robotics team has given me the courage to try new things which I wouldn’t have always done before.” Another STEM Academy student shares, “Being in a STEM school and being able to specialize in a specific field, like computer programming, has given me the foundation and support to want to pursue it as a career.”

To learn more information, or to tour the school, visit www.stem3academy.org, or please contact admissions at: (818) 623-6386.
The Help Group’s 19th annual Summit convened leading experts at the forefront of their fields in autism, ADHD and learning disabilities. Offering cutting-edge presentations and new insights and perspectives in basic and applied research and evidence-based best practices, the Summit brought together more than 500 professionals and parents on Friday, October 23rd and Saturday, October 24th at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles.

Dr. Barbara Firestone welcomed guests and acknowledged the distinguished presenters for their impressive body of work. Dr. Firestone served as chair of this year’s conference along with co-chairs Dr. Peter C. Whybrow, UCLA Semel Institute Director, and Dr. Robert M. Bilder, UCLA Semel Institute Chief of Medical Psychology-Neuropsychology & Tennenbaum Center Director.

NBC4 news anchor and multiple award-winning journalist, Colleen Williams served as luncheon host once again this year. With her warmth and enthusiasm, she spoke of NBC4’s commitment to children with special needs and to telling the stories that build greater awareness and understanding.

Dr. Firestone acknowledged Major Sponsors First 5 California and First 5 LA for their generous support over the years. She expressed The Help Group’s appreciation to NBC4 and LA Parent for their media sponsorships.

After receiving artwork created by the children of The Help Group, Terri Hernandez-Rosales, NBC4 Vice President of Community Affairs and Communications, remarked, “Colleen and I work in a dynamic company, a company that cares about its community, and about giving back in ways that are meaningful and that matter. Thank you so much for allowing us to be part of this wonderful event and part of The Help Group that continues to do amazing work.”

Elena Epstein, Director of Content and Strategic Partnerships for LA Parent, said, “Truly it’s the kids, the stories of the families, and what everyone here does that inspires us every day. So thanks for sharing your stories and allowing us to share them with our readers.”

Gary H. Carmona, Help Group Chairman, and Dr. Firestone presented The Help Group’s Champion for Children Award to Dr. Marc Southard in appreciation of his leadership and extraordinary impact on the mental health and well-being of countless young people and their families. Dr. Southard has served as the Director of the County of Los Angeles Department of Mental Health since 1998, leading the largest public mental health system in the country, serving over 200,000 clients annually.

“Dr. Southard’s distinguished career has been characterized by his outstanding leadership, vision, compassion and spirit of collaboration,” shared Dr. Firestone. “We are so grateful to him for his many contributions to the children and families of our county. We congratulate him on his new role at USC as Professor of Practice for the USC School of Social Work.”

In his acceptance remarks Dr. Southard said, “The Help Group has been a model for the mental health community for finding new ways to engage families and communities. We’ve accomplished great things working together and have made Los Angeles County a better place for our children.”

The Summit featured 21 thought-provoking sessions, including keynote presentations by Dr. Wendy Stone on identifying and treating toddlers with autism, and from Dr. Stephen Hinshaw on his new book, “ADHD: What Everyone Needs to Know,” which premiered at the Summit as part of its West Coast launch. Drs. Lynn and Robert Koegel capped off the first day of Summit with an engaging overview of the highly recognized Pivotal Response Treatment they developed for children with autism.

One clinician summed up the experience of many of our attendees when she said, “The Help Group’s Summit conference is always insightful and relevant and the speakers make it engaging. The comprehensive range of information better informs my practice, year after year.”

Our thanks to the outstanding group of Summit presenters for sharing their important work and dynamic ideas with our audience.
ABOUT THE HELP GROUP
The Help Group is dedicated to the education, treatment and outreach of children, adolescents and young adults with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and other special needs.

SPECIALIZED DAY SCHOOLS
Village Glen School for students with Asperger’s Disorder, high-functioning autism and nonverbal learning disabilities. The Pace Program is available for gifted students and offers honors and AP classes. The Beacon Program educates students with behavioral challenges.

Young Learners Preschool for Autism for children ages 2.9 to 5 years with autism spectrum disorder.

Bridgport School for students 5 to 22 with mild to moderate cognitive delays and challenges with social communication and/or language development.

Bridgport Vocational Education Center serves young adults ages 18 to 22 and bridges the gap between high school and adult independence.

Sunrise School serves students ages 5 to 22 with moderate to severe global delays associated with autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities.

Summit View School for students with learning differences who possess average to above-average intellectual capabilities.

Stem3 Academy is the first high school of its kind to connect the particular strengths of students with social and learning differences, including autism, with an innovative and rigorous curriculum that positions students for future success.

The Help Group’s Westview serves students with learning disabilities, autism spectrum disorder, attention deficit and/or mild emotional and social issues.

The Help Group’s North Hills Prep offers a WASC-accredited college preparatory curriculum while supporting and challenging creative learners in a nurturing and inclusive community.

The Help Group’s Parkhill School is an intensive therapeutic day program serving children and adolescents with emotional and behavioral challenges.

MENTAL HEALTH & CLINICAL PROGRAMS
These programs provide a continuum of comprehensive outpatient services for children and families, including assessment; individual, family and group therapy; case management; psychiatric services; parenting groups; in-home counseling; school-based mental health counseling; REACH - after-school day rehabilitation; Stepping Stones - an intensive day treatment for children ages 3 to 5 and therapeutic behavioral services. Wraparound is an innovative program designed to maintain at-risk children in their homes and avoid placement in institutions or other restrictive settings.

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER PROGRAMS
The Help Group Center for Autism Spectrum Disorder features multidisciplinary assessment, consultation, intervention, family support groups, as well as seminars for parents and professionals.

Paws and Pals for Kids with Autism is a volunteer-supported pet intervention program designed to engage young people with social and communication challenges.

RECREATIONAL AND SOCIAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
Kids Like Me provides after-school enrichment, social skills groups and day camps designed specifically for children and adolescents with ASD and other developmental challenges. Teens on the Go is a travel camp for young people with ASD. club l.a. TEEN provides a supported social network for teens with ASD.

VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS
The Community Employment Program assists adolescents and young adults with social-emotional and/or mental health challenges with the special guidance, skills and support needed to obtain and maintain successful employment.

Silverlining Resale Boutique & Vocational Training Center provides students with special needs the opportunity to learn and develop valuable work experience and job skills that contribute to their knowledge, self-confidence, employability and future independence.

RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS
Project Six is a therapeutic boarding option for teens ages 13 to 17 with Asperger’s Disorder, ASD, mood and anxiety disorders, and learning differences.

Project Six Adult Residential Program provides community-based group homes for adults with developmental disabilities.

18 + PROGRAMS
Advance LA provides one-on-one life skills coaching for teens and young adults with unique challenges in their transition to independence.

Live. Advance. LA offers a supported living experience on a college campus for young adults ages 18 to 29 who are learning the skills needed to transition to independence.

club l.a. facilitates activities for young adults designed to enhance social skills, meet people with similar interests and develop long-lasting friendships.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING & RESEARCH
The Help Group - UCLA Neuropsychology Program provides neuropsychological assessments and consultations for children, adolescents and young adults and enriches the field of knowledge through its research and educational endeavors.

The Help Group - UCLA Autism Research Alliance is dedicated to enhancing and expanding clinical research in the education and treatment of ASD and to contributing to the development, greater understanding and use of best practice models by researchers, educators and clinicians.

The Help Group - USC Occupational Science Initiative is dedicated to developing evidence-based intervention programs for children with ASD through an interdisciplinary team of researchers, educators and clinicians.
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 for Autism · Stem² 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 · LiveAdvance.LA.
- Project Six/The Commons · Kids Like Me Recreational Programs & Camps · club l.a./club l.a. · TEEN Paws and Pals for Kids with Autism · Silverlining Resale Boutique & Vocational Training Center
- 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

We invite you to follow us on facebook...

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

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Teddy Bear Ball**
The Beverly Hilton Hotel
December 9, 2015

**Teddy Bear Tea**
Four Seasons Los Angeles at Beverly Hills Hotel
TBA

**Advance LA**
#Habits Conference
American Jewish University
May 6, 2016

**Keyes For Kids**
Teddy Bear Golf Classic
Valencia Country Club
September 26, 2016

**The Help Group SUMMIT 2016**
Skirball Cultural Center
October 14 - October 15, 2016

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