



## NEWS

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For Immediate Release  
Sept. 4, 2019

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### **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual HALO “I Defy the Odds” Inspiration Breakfast Sept. 19** ***Be Inspired by Stories from HALO Kids Who Prove that Homeless Is Not Helpless***

**Kansas City, MO** — Kansas City nonprofit [HALO](#) is hosting its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual “I Defy the Odds” Inspiration Breakfast at Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art (4420 Warwick Blvd., Kansas City, MO 64111) on Sept. 19. Doors open and breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m. Program is 8 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. VIP Experience immediately follows and ends at 10:30 a.m. Honorary Co-Chairs are Shannon Thrun and Courtney Filing. Special awards are presented to HALO children who are defying the odds of youth homelessness. The Featured Speaker is [Christine McDonald](#), a Kansas City survivor of human trafficking, homelessness, and addiction. Funds raised benefit homeless and at-risk children in Kansas City.

Featured Speaker Christine McDonald said, “HALO works with vulnerable youth. I was an at-risk youth, and I ended up homeless at 15. Because of my vulnerabilities and my homelessness and the lack of services, such as HALO and caring people, I ended up spending 21 years of my life homeless.”

“The homeless children and teens we work with don’t just exceed expectations, they defy the odds,” said HALO Founder Rebecca Welsh. “Experience this confidence first hand at our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Inspiration Breakfast. Hear stories that defy the odds and witness how love can change a life.”

This event is almost sold out. Sponsors include Haverty Family Foundation as the Diamond lead sponsor, BlueCross & BlueShield of Kansas City, WireCo WorldGroup, Mariner Wealth Advisors, Lockton, Wagstaff & Cartmell, Kenny Johnson Photography, Nuance, Moroccanoil, Carly Rae Studio and Image360. Donations can be made [here](#). Pictures from the 2018 event are available to view on the HALO [Facebook page](#).

Welsh shares, “When we tell a child that they are valued, that they are an absolute treasure, and then finally they believe it, that’s when we see the best of this world. That’s the magic of love. They then slowly become a force that can and will defy the odds.”

#### **ABOUT HALO**

HALO believes every child should have the foundation of a family. Since 2005, HALO has provided love in the form of housing, healing and education to heal homeless and at-risk children. Featured in the Moroccanoil [INSPIRED](#) film series, “American Spirit” of CBS Evening News, “Heroes Among Us” and “25 Women Changing the World” of PEOPLE magazine, “The Today Show,” and Variety Magazine, HALO serves over 1,400 children each year and supports 21 homes and programs around the globe. HALO has Learning Centers and Housing programs in Kansas City, and Jefferson City, Missouri, and art programming in New York and Portland. HALO also supports orphanages and programs in Uganda, Kenya, Mexico and India. Learn how [Love Heals](#) at HALO and help one more child spend one less day alone at [www.haloworldwide.org](http://www.haloworldwide.org).

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