



## NEWS

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### **HALO Shines in National Spotlight Addressing Youth Homelessness *HALO Founder Rebecca Welsh at Variety Power of Women, Alongside Jennifer Aniston, Mariah Carey and Brie Larson***

Kansas City, MO – HALO Founder Rebecca Welsh was invited back to speak at the Annual [Variety Power of Women Luncheon](#) on Oct. 11 at the Beverly Wilshire Four Seasons in Los Angeles. The event, in partnership with Lifetime Television, gathers Hollywood's most philanthropic women selected as Variety's "Power of Women Honorees." Through their humanitarian efforts, these women make a significant difference in their chosen causes. The six honorees include Jennifer Aniston (St. Jude Children's Research Hospital), Mariah Carey (Fresh Air Fund's Camp Mariah), Chaka Khan (Little Kids Rock), Brie Larson (Equal Justice Initiative), Awkwafina (Building Beats) and Dana Walden (UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center).

[Welsh was honored in 2015 at this event](#) and received the Moroccanoil "Inspiration to Action" Award alongside the "Power of Women Honorees" Salma Hayek, Anna Kendrick, Gwyneth Paltrow, Oprah Winfrey and Susan Wojcicki.

She took the stage this year to share the impact Moroccanoil has made possible for HALO. Welsh also addressed the youth homelessness crisis and how HALO helps over 1,400 children across the globe to change their trajectory by providing the foundation of a family. She shared a story of moving a homeless youth in the HALO Home.

"I'll never forget the day after Caylin moved in, and she had her brand new sheets balled up on the floor. I asked why are your sheets balled up? Do you want a different color? I can get a different size. She looked at me and said she had never had those before. Sheets were something that I took for granted. And every time a kid moves into a HALO Home, and they get their hair done for the first time in their life, and they cry when they see their transformation in the mirror for the first time. Or they get hearing aids for the first time, because nobody had noticed they couldn't hear. Or they stop hiding food under their bed, because they don't have to worry where their next meal is coming from. I'm reminded just how much I take for granted. As we sit in this room, right here right now, there are children out there that have no HALO, who have nowhere to turn and who are suffering in a life of homelessness that they just don't deserve. There is a solution to this. Imagine if every one of us just did one small thing and used whatever gifts we have to make the kind of-an-impact that doesn't just impact one life, like Caylin's life, but it impacts generations," said Welsh.

Watch Welsh's full speech [here](#). Photos of the event are [here](#). Red carpet photos are [here](#). Celebrities in attendance include Ellen DeGeneres, Natalie Portman, Natasha Lyonne, among many others.

#### **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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