



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Uplift Center for Grieving Children to honor William Hankowsky and Laura Hinds at annual gala

Uplift Center for Grieving Children, Philadelphia's largest provider of free grief and bereavement services for youth and their caregivers, will honor William "Bill" Hankowsky, former Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer of Liberty Property Trust until February 2020, and Laura Hinds, MSW of Hindsight Consulting Group during their upcoming gala. Titled *An UPLIFTing Evening*, the gala will be held on Thursday, May 5, 2022 at Vie by Cescaphe in Center City. Journalist and news anchor Cherri Gregg, Esq., of WHYY-FM will host the event.

"This year, we are delighted to highlight the community that supports Uplift," said Darcy Walker Krause, Uplift's Executive Director. "Our honorees have both been integrally involved in supporting our organization and our community."

"Bill Hankowsky has been a supporter of ours over the years," Krause continued. "As a stalwart for public education in Philadelphia, Bill believes in the importance of our work in supporting grieving students in educational environments." Hankowsky was Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer of Liberty Property Trust for 19 years, during which he grew Liberty to be a nationally recognized REIT. Prior to joining Liberty, Hankowsky served for 11 years as president of the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation (PIDC) and served as the City of Philadelphia's Commerce Director.

Joining Hankowsky as an awardee is Laura Hinds, MSW. Hinds is the founder and Principal Partner of Hindsight Consulting Group, LLC, which engages with non-profits to support their mission alignment, training, and organizational development needs. Hindsight Consulting Group focuses on improving services offered to vulnerable populations and increasing racial equity in social services. Hinds is also an alumna and instructor at The University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy and Practice (SP2), and curated and instructed Bryn Mawr's Post-Graduate Certificate in Trauma for the last five years.

"Laura Hinds has been a teacher and mentor to many members of our staff, including training all team members in trauma-informed practice," shared Krause. "For these reasons, Uplift's clinical staff selected Laura as Uplift's inaugural Community Partner Honoree."

Uplift Center for Grieving Children was founded in 1995 by the Bereavement Program at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children and incorporated as an independent nonprofit in 2000. The organization's flagship programs are peer support groups led by trained clinicians for children and teens in grades K-12th who have experienced the death of someone significant in their lives. All groups are divided by age and developmental level, and caregiver groups are also offered to provide support for adults raising a grieving child. Annually, Uplift directly supports more than 2,500 children in Philadelphia. For more information, please visit Uplift's website at www.upliftphilly.org.

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