

Weave the Thread of Love and End the Cycle of Child Abuse Media Contact: Kim Padgett The Padgett Group 713-588-4130 Kim@thepadgettgroup.com

The Thread Alliance Founder Sheila Aron Named One of FamilyTime's 2017 Women of Achievement

HOUSTON (December 18, 2017) – Sheila Aron, the founder of The Thread Alliance, was recently named one of FamilyTime's 2017 Women of Achievement Award honorees in the category of human service.

The Women of Achievement Award winners will be honored at the FamilyTime's Heart of Gold Gala which will be held on Saturday, January 20, 2018 from 5:30-11 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Houston. FamilyTime is a non-profit organization that provides services and programs to encourage the mental health and wellness of the community as well as promote safety and support for the prevention of domestic and sexual violence.

Aron is fighting to end the cycle of child abuse as the author of "I'm Glad I'm Me: Weaving the Thread of Love From Generation to Generation" and founder of The Thread Alliance, a local non-profit dedicated to ending the cycle of child abuse.

She believes that when messages of love are communicated between parents and children it can positively shape a child's personality, self-esteem, and – in later years – their approach to their own children. Aron's advocacy for loving parent-child relationships reaches deep in the Houston community. She reads and donates copies of "I'm Glad I'm Me" to the children of local non-profits. In addition to providing her book, Aron also provides BabyLovies to local organizations.

In 2013, Aron launched the Blue Plate Special, a citywide child abuse prevention awareness campaign encouraging Houstonians to take action against child abuse and toward healing. During the month of April, Child Abuse Prevention Month, local restaurants offer a "Blue Plate Special" and proceeds from each dish go back to The Thread Alliance. In December 2015, The Thread Alliance developed a grant program, which has donated thousands to local charities that address the issue of child abuse prevention, awareness and training. In the wake of Hurricane Harvey, The Thread Alliance awarded \$15,000 to organizations that are rebuilding Texas families.

About The Thread Alliance

The Thread Alliance, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization founded by Sheila Aron, is dedicated to ending the cycle of child abuse. The non-profit's mission is to bring child abuse awareness to the forefront and provide a central registry of local, state, and national resources for those seeking child abuse prevention, intervention, or treatment information and services. By increasing awareness and volunteerism through individual and community participation, The Thread Alliance strives to protect every child from cruelty and neglect and make child abuse a thing of the past.

The Blue Plate Special is The Thread Alliance's citywide public awareness and education campaign encouraging Houstonians to take action against child abuse and toward healing. Local restaurants support the cause by offering a "Blue Plate Special" during the month of April, Child Abuse Prevention Month, and donating a percentage or flat dollar amount of the proceeds to The Thread Alliance.

Sheila Aron is also the author of "I'm Glad I'm Me, Weaving the Thread of Love From Generation to Generation." The book is written with the conviction that how messages of love are communicated between parents and children can positively shape a child's personality, self-esteem, and - in later years - their approach to their own children.

For more information about The Thread Alliance visit, <u>www.thethreadalliance.org</u> and like us on <u>Facebook</u>. For more information about the Blue Plate Special visit, <u>www.thethreadalliance.org/blue-plate-special/</u>. For more information about "I'm Glad I'm Me, Weaving the Thread of Love From Generation to Generation" visit, <u>www.sheilaaronbooks.com/</u>.

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