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KIMBERLY WILLIAMS-PAISLEY TO HEADLINE JULIETTE FOWLER COMMUNITIES' 2020 VISIONARY WOMEN LUNCHEON

A successful actor, producer, author, and advocate, Williams-Paisley is passionate about creating a greater awareness of dementia and Alzheimer's and helping others through her personal experience with her mother

Dallas, TX – November 20, 2019 – Juliette Fowler Communities announces Kimberly Williams-Paisley will headline the 2020 Visionary Women Luncheon on Friday, May 1, at noon, at the OMNI Dallas Hotel, 555 S. Lamar St. Williams-Paisley is an award-winning actor, author, columnist, director, producer, spokesperson, radio-host, and social advocate. She has starred in film, television, and theater for over 25 years and is known for her co-starring roles on *According to Jim* and *Nashville*, as well as her breakthrough performance in *Father of the Bride*, for which she was nominated for several awards, and its sequel, *Father of the Bride Part II*. In 2016 she became a *New York Times* best-selling author for her book *Where the Light Gets In*, that explores how her family coped with her mother Linda's dementia, her care, and losing her. The book was developed after she wrote an essay for *Redbook* magazine in 2014 called "Is My Mother Gone?" that chronicled the impact of her mother's dementia.

"I wrote this book to shed light on the subject of dementia, raise awareness and help others, and I'm delighted to share my story at the Visionary Women Luncheon," said Kimberly Williams-Paisley. "Juliette Fowler Communities is doing incredible work caring for residents in all life-stages, including a specific focus on memory care, and I'm so pleased to support their efforts."

Located on 25 picturesque acres, Juliette Fowler Communities features the only dementia care program in Dallas, and one of only three in Texas, certified in the I'm Still Here® approach, a unique paradigm shift in memory care. As an I'm Still Here® Center for Excellence in Dementia Care, Juliette Fowler Communities provides an engagement-focused program connecting with those living with Alzheimer's and related dementias through abilities that do not diminish with time. By offering families and professionals ways to emotionally connect with loved ones who are still there through communication techniques and life enrichment, this program sparks creativity and engagement, helping them to thrive.

Williams-Paisley first noticed something was not right with her mother during her wedding to country music artist Brad Paisley. Her mother had wanted to participate in the wedding, and they had asked her to read a Bible verse, which she had difficulty doing. Linda was suffering from a rare form of dementia called primary progressive aphasia that slowly crippled her ability to talk, write and eventually recognize people in her own family.

"We made a lot of mistakes with my mother, and I want other families to know the importance of reaching out early and seeking the support of others," added Williams-Paisley. "There is still such a stigma about dementia, and it's important for people to know there are organizations like Juliette Fowler Communities who can be a resource, offer support and provide a loving home with all levels of care."

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"Juliette Fowler Communities is elated to welcome the talented and passionate Kimberly Williams-Paisley to headline our annual luncheon and fundraiser," said Nicole Gann, president and CEO. "Her experiences with her beloved mother have helped open the eyes to many about this growing epidemic. Approximately 5.8 million Americans are currently living with Alzheimer's, and it is projected that number will grow to 14 million by 2050. Kimberly is a voice of hope for families, guiding them to live in the present with their loved ones while seeking resources, support, and care from others."

Williams-Paisley's proliferate film career includes over 50 credits as an actor with current and recent work in Dolly Parton's *Heartstrings*, a TV series for Netflix; the four-film franchise for Hallmark Movies & Mysteries *Darrow & Darrow*, most recently *Witness to Murder: A Darrow Mystery* and *Darrow & Darrow 4: Burden of Proof* for Showtime; and *The Flash* TV series. She co-starred opposite Kurt Russell in Netflix's *The Christmas Chronicles* and will appear in the film's sequel.

She made her Broadway debut in the Tony Award-Winning *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* and has appeared on stage in *The Vagina Monologues* and in *All in the Timing*. Additionally, she has also performed in London's West End in David Mamet's *Speed-the-Plow*.

Her career in publishing includes articles for *In Style* and *New You* magazines and a year-long column for *Redbook* entitled "My Life as a New Wife." She and her father, Gurney Williams, co-authored the children's book, *Henry and the Hidden Veggie Garden*, and she wrote a chapter for the Zondervan-published book *The Mother and Child Project: Raising Our Voices for Health and Hope*, a project to help support mothers and children around the globe.

As a spokesperson for the Alzheimer's Association, Williams-Paisley has spoken at various fundraisers and events throughout the country. In other charitable work, she hosted the critically acclaimed series *NPT Reports: Children's Health Crisis* for Nashville Public Television. The program won a Mid-South Regional Emmy for its excellence in documentaries in the Community Service Category. She is actively involved with JP/HRO, Sean Penn's Haitian relief organization, which is currently working to improve the lives of the people of Port-Au-Prince. She is a member of the Entertainment Council for Feeding America, a Nashville Zoo board member, and a supporter of various animal rescue organizations. Williams-Paisley also travels to meet families in less fortunate places such as Guatemala and speaks on Capitol Hill on behalf the world hunger crisis.

In 2020 Williams-Paisley and her husband, Brad Paisley, will open The Store, a modern version of a food pantry that is set-up like a free grocery store to serve people with dignity in Nashville. The Store will partner with Belmont University Second, Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee, and other organizations to provide both fresh and nonperishable groceries to individuals and families in need for one year. Customers will be referred by nonprofit and government agencies. The nonprofit has an initial goal to serve 3,000 people per year.

During the luncheon, Juliette Fowler Communities will also honor the recipients of the 2020 Visionary Women Award, the Juliette Fowler Faith and Service Award, and the Erika McKenzie Volunteer Award.

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"Please join us for this unique opportunity to hear the delightful and inspirational Kimberly Williams-Paisley, learn about important resources for your family, and help us honor three outstanding award recipients to be announced soon," added Nicole Gann. "Your support of this luncheon and Juliette Fowler Communities provides critical funding to our One Heart Annual Fund, enabling us to continue to implement the most innovative programs while improving our campus facilities, which ensures the best for all of our residents in all stages of care."

Luncheon tickets are $200, and sponsorships are available. Contact Jamie Rodgers, jamier@fowlercommunities.org, 214-515-1342. Visit https://fowlercommunities.org/visionary-women-luncheon/

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Juliette Fowler Communities is a unique faith-based, intergenerational community of residents at various life-stages. Located on 25 picturesque acres, Juliette Fowler Communities provides independent and assisted living, a Five-Star Quality Rated skilled nursing and rehabilitation center, memory care and affordable senior housing. As the only certified I'm Still Here® Center for Excellence in Dementia Care in Dallas and one of only three in Texas, Fowler's program employs evidence-based techniques to adapt experiences to an individual's cognitive abilities and strengths. It has also been named a Great Place to Work in the Aging Services Industry in 2018 and 2019. Additionally, on the grounds is The Ebby House, a residence for young women, ages 18-24, at risk for homelessness due to neglect, abuse, and aging out of the foster care system. The Ebby House program instills life skills and provides mentoring, health care, education, career guidance and job training. Additional services of Juliette Fowler Communities include foster and adoption services. Visit fowlercommunities.org or call 214.827.0813.