

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Neuhaus Education Center Celebrates 45th Anniversary at the
2025 Literacy Lights the Way Luncheon**

Houston, TX – (April 8, 2025) – Neuhaus Education Center (NEC) held its much-anticipated 2025 Literacy Lights the Way Luncheon at The Post Oak Hotel at Uptown Houston raising a record-breaking \$540,000 for the organization. This year’s event honored Neuhaus’ 45th Anniversary and celebrated the multi-generational impact the organization has on so many families. Luncheon co-chairs included **Will and Barb Noel**, and their three daughters, **Kathleen Noel Camp, Laura Noel Borland**, and **Sharon Noel Griffin**- The Noel family has been involved since the organization’s founding.

“For a child with under resourced communities, or for those with teachers who don’t have the right tools, dyslexia can be devastating. We are sitting on a goldmine of a solution with Neuhaus’ instructional tools and courses,” said event chair, Laura Borland. “Neuhaus teaches teachers, so they have the tools to unlock literacy success for all. We’re proud advocates for, and beneficiaries of, the incredible work that Neuhaus does in Houston and beyond.”

Keynote speaker, **Dr. Elsa Cárdenas-Hagan**, President of the Valley Speech Language and Learning Center in Brownsville, Texas, showed the longitudinal impact of Neuhaus’ work in the Brownsville region. Neuhaus first partnered with Dr. Cárdenas-Hagan in 1997 to present to the Brownsville ISD leadership resulting in Neuhaus providing instruction for the entire districts’ elementary educators. In 2008, Brownsville won the Broad Award, one of the most prestigious educational awards, for being the country’s top public school system demonstrating overall performance and improvement in student achievement.

Longtime supporter **Ben Andrews** was honored and gave a moving testimonial on Neuhaus’ impact on his family. Ben first became involved with Neuhaus 30 years ago and was recently selected as a Neuhaus Lifetime Trustee for his tremendous service.

At the end of the event, Board Chair, **Amy Thompson**, honored longtime President and CEO, **Dr. Tracy White Weeden**, who is retiring after 10 years of service and the selection of **Katherine Smith** as the new President and CEO of Neuhaus Education Center.

Notable attendees included **Graham and Ed Neuhaus, Ann and Johnny Johnson, Dr. Sushma Yalamanchili, Lenox Reed, Jennifer and Will Neuhaus, Edward Crain, Deborah Duncan, Jamie Grissom, Jayne Johnston, Jennifer Jeffery**, and event emcee **Lisa Malosky**.

About Neuhaus Education Center

Since its inception in 1980, Neuhaus Education Center has equipped over 100,000 educators with effective literacy instruction techniques, positively impacting students of all abilities across the nation and internationally. The center also provides free community programs to extend literacy support to learners of all ages. We're making an impact to unlock a brighter future of *Literacy for All*. Visit www.neuhaus.org to learn more.