



**June 07, 2018**

**Ben Williamson, MPA, PMP**

Assistant to the City Manager

City of Farmers Branch

[13000 William Dodson Parkway](#)

[Farmers Branch, Texas 75234](#)

O. 972-919-2505

**Dear Mr. Williamson,**

In response to your request on May 08, I am submitting this proposal to increase action and prevention power to the growing epidemic of mental illness in our communities via the launch of a pilot study called ***Project Priceless™***

Taking into consideration the growing statistics and alarming current events of suicide, school shootings, domestic violence and bullying; it is imperative that as a community we become proactive vs. reactive in our execution of solutions.

***Project Priceless™*** is on a mission to re-emphasize the value of human life. It is imperative for people in today's society to know that they matter and that their life is worth saving! Therefore, when people realize that they are worthy of life; they will also come to respect others and their right to live in peace and with dignity. Unfortunately, the overexposure to violence and suffering has desensitized our country; however, ***Project Priceless™*** is commissioned to serve as a catalyst of change to catapult our society back into action for the sole purpose of preserving and protecting human life. #WeALLMatter

Stand 4 Sisterhood hopes that the City of Farmers Branch will consider standing with us by favorably funding our plan of action to better serve the citizens of Farmers Branch.

**Sincerely,**

**Marguritte S. Johnson**

**Executive Director & Advocate**

## SUMMARY

My heart breaks after receiving devastating news of two very different, yet publicized suicides in one week; a 10<sup>th</sup> grade boy committed suicide June 01, 2018 at McKinney North High School and American Fashion Designer, Kate Spade ended her relentless battle with depression by suicide June 05, 2018.

43.8 million (1 out of 5) American adults have a mental health condition and 9.6 million experience suicide ideation. Furthermore, the mental health among our youth is also worsening with 17 million have or had a mental illness; yet most in both adult and youth cases are untreated.

Unfortunately, the stigma of mental illnesses, along with several other factors results in high percentages of untreated mental illnesses in both the United States and across the world. Sadly, some of the consequences of non-treatment for mental illness are as follows: **Homelessness; Incarceration; Episodes of Violence; Victimization/Bullying; Substance Abuse; Suicide.**

It is proposed that funding in the amount of \$30,500 is provided to launch this pilot study – **Project Priceless™** for the City of Farmers Branch citizens to receive screenings, training/support and treatments/resources in the early onset on mental illness to serve as prevention power against the above consequences for non-treatment.

The program will be conducted under close supervision of mental illness experts and field professionals. The future maintenance of **Project Priceless™** will be made possible through volunteer fundraising efforts carried out by supporters of Stand 4 Sisterhood and via appropriations secured from grants, community partners and corporate sponsors.

## INTRODUCTION

*"Why can't people just tell the truth? Why can't they say, 'I'm having a bad day, and I can't make the meeting'?" she asked. "Why can't they just say what's wrong?"* These were a series of questions proposed by Erin Murphy Carlson, the daughter of Dallas legend and notable publisher Terry Murphy, who took his own life at age 77 after suffering from a terminal illness of depression.

The hard truth to Erin's questions from a personal experience is that it's really difficult to tell people that you're really NOT ok. There's a lot of shame and embarrassment attached to thoughts of self-harm; therefore, to keep from having to "explain" why you're NOT ok, many choose, as I did for a LONG time to keep the "secret" safely locked within.

After having my second child in 2004, I didn't tell anyone – not even my husband that I was dealing with postpartum depression until a year later. In 2011, after experiencing what seemed like never-ending life hits, even as a pastor and mentor, I found myself overeating and

“internally” struggling to get out of bed just to do basic chores... it was a dark difficult time in my life. Thankfully, my faith, family and my new found purpose – my organization saved me!

Stand 4 Sisterhood, formerly known as the Godly Girlfriend Movement, which was founded Jan. 2012 has become my saving grace. Stand 4 Sisterhood is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) advocacy agency committed to bringing solutions to unwelcoming or harmful situations that impacts the lives of girls and women via mentor-ship, take-action initiatives and preventive intervention.

Furthermore, Stand 4 Sisterhood empowers girls and women to collaborate vs. compete™ by uniting to fight- not each other as females; but to join forces to combat the social injustices of bullying, domestic violence, human trafficking and gender inequality. To address these platforms, S4S host pro-active community events every 4-6 weeks in Farmers Branch to ensure citizens are aware, informed and equipped with the knowledge to make a difference.

Moreover so, August of 2017, Stand 4 Sisterhood launched *Operation: LifeSavers™* that provides assistance, resources and outreach in support of single mothers and active duty/veteran females.

In summary, Stand 4 Sisterhood is commissioned to “fight for right™” by any means necessary. Our means is being pro-active vs. reactive. The root cause to our societal dysfunction is mental illness; therefore, S4S is not another organization to simply talk about the issue – because while conversations are being held... another person just died by suicide, more families are being devastated by domestic violence, more students are massacred in another senseless school shooting, another victim succumbed to human trafficking, someone just overdosed and the list is endless... but Enough Is Enough... it’s time to take action against mental illness NOW!

In partnership with the City of Farmers Branch, Stand 4 Sisterhood is willing and ready to save lives by getting our youth and their parents the HELP they are desperately; yet silently crying for. We must become the change that we want to see – TODAY – not tomorrow. Tomorrow is too late. We deserve to live in HEALTHY communities- in every capacity; mind, body and soul.

Stand 4 Sisterhood is on a mission to create a “safe space” that will allow anyone (young or old; male or female; blue collar or professional) to come and share life with **Project Priceless™** via our monthly support group *Exhale: Let Life Out™* in a judgement free; yet supportive, loving and enriched environment. We’ve all experienced moments in our lives in which we were not “ok”; therefore, *Exhale: Let Life Out™* will provide an outlet to permit someone to say, “I’m Not Ok” and to ensure they know that they’re NOT alone and a support system is in full action on their behalf for them to understand and know that better days await them. #ThisTooShallPass

Stand 4 Sisterhood via **Project Priceless™** is here to Stand Up and Speak Out for the voiceless, the hopeless and the friendless. They need to know that they are NOT alone and that someone sincerely cares for them and what they are dealing with daily. #WeNeedEachOtherToSurvive

## PROBLEM STATEMENT

As I am preparing this proposal, another publicized suicide occurred Friday June 08... Anthony Bourdain (age 61), celebrity chef and travel host took his own life in his Paris hotel room. Why? Why? Why?

Why do mental illness costs the US \$193.2 billion annually if ...

- Suicide is the 10<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death in America?
- More Americans than ever before are suffering from mental and emotional distress?
- Many of those struggling with mental illness don't have access to health insurance or effective treatment?
- If there's an increase in people with mental disorders; yet, a decrease in available and experienced therapists that can help them?

How long do we ask WHY???

Do we sit around and wait for the next WHY or do we intervene NOW to prevent the next WHY?

Mental illness is costing the US more than money; it's costing many families the loss of their loved ones and their lives were priceless; however, those suffering from mental illness are unaware of their worth, value and contribution to this world!

Therefore, those suffering from mental illness are depending upon us not to continue to be a part of the problem; however, to create an effective SOLUTION SYSTEM that will produce RESULTS - Today, Not Tomorrow! Unfortunately, tomorrow will be a lil' too late for another family having to ask the question - WHY???

## OBJECTIVES

Given the importance of making steady, incremental progress towards mental healing in our community, it is unlikely that demonstrable results will be possible in the first year. Therefore, during the first year, emphasis will be placed on setting up the project, evaluating the mental health of the participants and offering training certifications for those seeking career paths in mental health.

To assess the extent to which the proposed project remedies the problems noted above, it will be necessary to quantify the results to measure the project's effectiveness. The following are the project objectives:

**A. To increase the number of individuals aware of the warning signs of mental illness by 50% in Farmers Branch during the second full year of *Project Priceless*™!**

Considering Hispanics make up the primary population of Farmers Branch with 45.6% - *Project Priceless*™ will definitely initiate a Spanish campaign to ensure they are aware of available resources and how to seek help if necessary.

While Hispanic/Latino communities show similar susceptibility to mental illness as the general population, unfortunately, they experience disparities in access to quality treatment. This inequality puts them at a higher risk for more severe and persistent forms of mental health conditions ranging from: generalized anxiety disorder, major depression, posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and alcoholism. Additionally, Latina high school girls have high rates of suicide attempts.

Yet, as a community, they are less likely to seek mental health treatment. A 2001 Surgeon General's report found that only 20% of Latinos with symptoms of a psychological disorder talk to a doctor about their concerns. Only 10% contact a mental health specialist. Therefore, without treatment, certain mental health conditions can worsen and become disabling.

**B. To increase the number of treated mentally distressed individuals (both in youth and adults) by 25% in Farmers Branch during the second full year of *Project Priceless*™!**

According to the Mental Health Newsletter, the benefits of mental health therapy are quite meaningful to the quality life that is available to everyone. Dr. Lloyd Sederer quoted, "When there is hope, there is reason to participate in treatment, to learn to manage disease, and to reach for life when faced with setbacks. People who are in recovery take greater responsibility for themselves and insist on dignity and opportunity."

**C. To offer certification training and/or scholarships to individuals desiring to continue education and seek career opportunities in the mental health field.**

The Clinician to Patient Rates in the City of Farmers Branch records that there are only 121 mental health professionals for every 100,000 mental patients. That's a problem that needs immediate attention.

**D. To ensure a safe place of support for individuals experiencing mental distress by actively listening, promoting value and worthiness and ensuring they know without a doubt that life is worth living.**

According to [healthfinder.gov](http://healthfinder.gov), many people find peer support a helpful tool that can aid in their recovery. Therefore, *Exhale: Let Life Out*<sup>™</sup> will serve in this capacity. Support groups are a great resource for people to maintain control over their lives, to give and take the wisdom and experience that comes from leaving with a devastating mental illness.

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The proposed project is comprised of several different, but related activities:

### **A. Mental Health Awareness Campaign for Farmers Branch Residents**

The first component of this project is to launch the *Project Priceless*<sup>™</sup> Community Campaign with an emphasis on the Hispanic/Latino community to ensure the citizens of Farmers Branch are equipped with knowledge concerning the warning signs of mental illness before it's too late.

### **B. Mental Health Evaluation & Screenings for Farmers Branch Residents**

Phase II of this pilot study involves the residents of Farmers Branch, including youth and adults, receiving mental health screenings either at live resource fairs, in collaboration with churches/schools/corporations or complete online screenings via the website.

### **C. Professional Partnerships**

Phase III will of this program is to partner the mentally distressed individuals with professional therapists and mental health consultants that will aid in the journey of recovery for the patients.

### **D. Certifications & Scholarships**

Phase IV will offer funding for 12 individuals to complete training as a (NCPS) National Certified Peer Specialists via the Mental Health America nationally certification program.

Furthermore, an additional fund will be reserved for individuals desiring to continue education and pursue a career in mental health to ensure patients are partnered with experienced professionals.

### **E. Peer Support via *Exhale: Let Life Out* Support Group**

*Project Priceless*<sup>™</sup> will host a monthly peer support group to aid in the journey of recovery for those individuals in need of a “safe space” to share life challenges and to know that they are NEVER alone in this process of healing.

## EVALUATION

To determine whether project objectives are being met, Stand 4 Sisterhood will partner with several local mental health facilities and experts in the field of mental wholeness in Farmers Branch and Dallas, TX. The evaluation proposed consists of two strategies for assessing project success:

### **A. Process Evaluation**

It is necessary to first determine the residents (youth and adults) in Farmers Branch that are unaware of the signs of mental health and ensure resources are provided to them via media campaigns, blogs, PSA alerts, resource fairs, etc... Secondly, we must determine the number of residents currently dealing with mental illness in some capacity via a live and/or online screening process. If a mental diagnosis comes back positive- it will be necessary for these individuals to receive a further professional evaluation. After the evaluation, via *Project Priceless*<sup>™</sup>; individuals selected for pilot study will be partnered with a mental health facility for therapy and will also partake in the support group: *Exhale: Let Life Out*<sup>™</sup> for 3-6-9-12 month timeframes; depending on level of diagnosis.

### **B. Outcome Evaluation**

Of primary interest is whether the proposed pilot actually improves the mental health of the individuals and reduces their thoughts of self-harm or harm to others. To determine the extent to which the project is responsible for the improved mental health, Stand 4 Sisterhood will collect extensive data on the pre-project mental health statistics of the participants. Variables will include sex, race, age, time history of mental illness, specific mental illness, therapy choice, support group evaluation, medications, extenuating circumstances, and health insurance access.

At 1-3-6-9-12 month intervals throughout the project period, Stand 4 Sisterhood will collect the same data on all participants. The pre-and post-project data will be compared using ANOVA- Analysis of variance developed by Ronald Fisher.

## FUTURE FUNDING

Despite the fact that most of the costs involve research and study, it will be necessary to plan for future funding of certain aspects of the project. These costs include branding and marketing for the *Project Priceless*<sup>™</sup> Campaign Launch to be presented and shared at schools, churches, recreation centers, neighborhoods and the community at large, maintenance of website and awareness blog, host facility for *Exhale: Let Life Out*<sup>™</sup> Support Group monthly meetings, certifications and scholarship reserves fund.

Considering the pilot study is funded in collaboration with the City of Farmers Branch, Stand 4 Sisterhood will appropriate maintenance and future sustainability via fundraising efforts with S4S donors, partnerships with other mental health foundations and also via securing grants, community partners and corporate sponsors.

## BUDGET/NARRATIVE

### Personnel

Salaries and Wages

Project Director: Marguritte S. Johnson

\$30,500 X 20% X 1 year: **\$6100**

Fringe Benefits: (Travel & Gas, Lunch Meetings, etc...)

\$30,500 X 5% X 1 year: **\$1525**

### ***Project Priceless Community Campaign Launch: Branding, Marketing & Pilot Study***

\$30500 X 15% X 1 year: **\$9150**

### Equipment

\$30500 X 10% X 1 year: **\$3050**

Laptop: \$1000

Website/Blog: \$1500

Misc. Supplies: \$550

### Certifications & Scholarship Fund

\$30500 X 25% X 1 year: **\$7625**

12 (NCPS) Certifications: \$5100

Scholarship Fund: \$2525

### **Host Facility for Events & Support Group – *Exhale: Let Life Out*<sup>™</sup>**

\$30500 X 10% X 1 year: **\$3050**

**PROJECT TOTAL: \$30,500**

### Personnel

Marguritte S. Johnson is committed to devote 35% of her time serving as Project Director for *Project Priceless*<sup>™</sup>.

### Campaign Launch

The cost of the campaign launch includes research and consulting for the pilot study, branding (logo, posters, postcards, banners, T-shirts, wristbands, etc...) and marketing materials

distribution to schools, churches, neighborhoods, community centers and the general public at large.

### **Equipment**

The listed cost of the equipment was determined by the median average for the purchase of laptop and the building and maintenance for a website/blog.

### **Supplies**

The costs of the supplies were based on spending about \$45 per month in notepads, pens and refreshments for the support group meetups.

### **Certifications & Scholarship Fund**

The costs of certification for 12 (NCPS) National Certified Peer Specialists via (MHA) Mental Health America is:

- Application Fee: \$225
- Examination Fee: \$200
- Renewal Fee: \$200 Biennially

\$2525.00 will be reserved a Scholarship fund to help further the education of individuals interested in pursuing a career path in mental health.

## REFERENCES

<https://www.dallasnews.com/opinion/commentary/2018/03/22/dallas-legend-terry-murphys-family-ready-talk-suicide-good-us>

<https://pphr.princeton.edu/2017/04/30/untreated-mental-illnesses-the-causes-and-effects/>

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/curious/201405/why-do-people-kill-themselves-new-warning-signs>

<http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/>

<https://flcertificationboard.org/national-certified-peer-specialist-ncps/>

<http://www.health.com/depression/8-million-americans-psychological-distress>

<https://www.nami.org/Learn-More/Mental-Health-By-the-Numbers>

[https://www.dallascounty.org/department/da/media/MentalHealth\\_CommunityResourceGuide.pdf](https://www.dallascounty.org/department/da/media/MentalHealth_CommunityResourceGuide.pdf)



*Chong Kim*  
*cherish her on nature's glory*

Stand 4 Sisterhood  
2435 Squire Place #100  
Farmers Branch, TX 75234

Attention: Mrs. Marguritte S. Johnson

To whom it may concern:

I'm a survivor of Human Trafficking, child abuse and domestic violence. Many of us who have been deeply scarred through abuse becomes very jaded in trusting anyone. When I met Marguritte, I felt a calming energy from her. I felt humbleness and the more I got to know her, we laughed. Even though our lifestyle in our past are opposite, she was eager to learn, understand and most of all listen with compassion. She is so amazing and always looking for ways to provide resources, help you find the steps in what your needs assessments are. Most advocates will provide a sheet a paper to find resources and the rest is on your own, but for Marguritte she also follows up with you, stays in touch with you, making sure every road block you face that you aren't facing it alone.

I am not at all surprised that she would be nominated through the E-Women's Network, she is phenomenal woman who passionately cares. She will go beyond the limits to make sure you have the support network that you need so every road you take, every step you face you don't ever feel alone in your journey to discovering your full potential. A year ago, I would have viewed Marguritte as a great allie, but today she *is* my sister and she does stand up for me and many others. I do hope you take my letter into consideration. I know you must have many amazing women to chose from but for 2018, I vote for Marguritte S. Johnson. Thank you so much!

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chong Kim', written over a large, stylized blue scribble.

Chong Kim, Survivor/Activist of Human Trafficking  
213-986-7140

[Chong@chongkim.net](mailto:Chong@chongkim.net)  
[www.chongkim.net](http://www.chongkim.net)



March 27, 2018

To: EWN Foundation

From: Teresa Lusk  
Teresa Lusk Ministries  
5100 Eldorado Parkway  
Suite 102-388  
McKinney, TX 75070

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter to share my testimony regarding my experience with Marguritte S. Johnson. Mrs. Johnson is of outstanding character and an unstoppable strength regarding her involvement in empowering young girls and her community. Marguritte S. Johnson has operated under a full schedule of community outreach events utilizing funds and opportunities granted to her to the fullest. Mrs. Johnson not only utilizes her funds, skills, and abilities but she maximizes social media outlets to constantly keep the public informed and motivated to reach their potential. Marguritte S. Johnson gives selflessly and I am certain she would be beyond honored for any award granted whether recognition and/or financial.

Thank you for considering this woman with relentless energy!

Thank you,

Teresa G. Lusk, President

[www.teresalusk.com](http://www.teresalusk.com)  
[teresa@teresalusk.com](mailto:teresa@teresalusk.com)  
214-552-6470

March 27, 2018

Dear Nomination Committee,

It is with great pleasure that I nominate Mrs. Marguiritte S. Johnson for consideration for the EWN Foundation Award in recognition of her tireless efforts in bringing awareness to issues in our community.

It is truly amazing how the efforts of one individual can make a huge impact on issues that are facing a community especially the women. Marguiritte's movement Godly Girlfriend Movement gives women the outlet that is needed to connect on a spiritual level in a variety of social settings so they can unite in sisterhood. This effort is made through many diverse settings and this is what makes this movement so unique. The women are allowed to enjoy many activities surrounded within the safety net of loving, encouraging, and God fearing women.

Marguiritte not only helps women but she find ways to help develop girls and young ladies to understand the importance of sisterhood with her movement of Stand4Sisterhood which is her nonprofit organization. This movement helps little girl to the woman address issues that affect them such as bullying, domestic violence, and many other tough situations that they may endure. She is teaching them the importance of uniting together to solve problems when they can achieve so much more when they collaborate together. This is what I love about the movement.

Marguiritte's passion erupts from her soul because she grew up with a sister and she understands the importance of the sisterly bond. That bond helps to develop and grow the woman into a dynamic being. Marguiritte's love and dedication to the positive growth of her biological daughter and so many other young ladies is evident in her community projects.

These efforts have earned Marguiritte the respect and gratitude of those for whom and with whom she serves, her family, church family, her community, and her peers in other states. As one of those peers whom Marguiritte has inspired and motivated to serve, I strongly urge you to award her the EWN Foundation Award.

Sincerely,

Ebony Hughes

March 27, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

It is an honor to submit this letter in support of the nomination of Marguritte Johnson for an award with the E- Women Network (EWN) Foundation. I have met many great leaders but when it comes to the area of community service, leadership and sisterhood, one servant rises above the rest- Marguritte Johnson.

For the past two years that I have known Marguritte I have witnessed her leadership and tremendous impact she has had globally. Marguritte has brought her vision of sisterhood to life. Not only has her vision and leadership improved our community but she has touched the lives of countless women all over the world.

Mrs. Johnson has an impeccable track record of being a great servant. Last year I dedicated my birthday to the homeless men and women of Dallas, Texas and sent out a post via Facebook asking for donations of shoeboxes and other personally items. She contacted me and informed me that she had several shoeboxes to support my cause. With her assistance, I was able to serve 40 homeless men and women for my 40<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Marguritte has spent endless days and night making sure that no sister is left behind. If she has it she gives it, if she knows it she shares it. If by chance she is not able to give personally she has no problem extending her resources/contacts to assist. She truly stands for sisterhood.

Mrs. Johnson responds to the call of leadership with open arms and always with a smile. She has earned a reputation of hardworking, trustworthy, dedicated and full of compassion and always strives for excellence. With her relentless motivation, Marguritte Johnson would be an asset to any organization.

I believe that the world needs more people like Marguritte Johnson, that has as much courage as a person that jumps with a parachute for the first time; that cares much more about people and community than herself; that is determined to search the entire world for an answer; that is sincere and honest with everyone she meets and is dedicated to fulfilling her calling.

I highly recommend any award that is currently being nominated for. If further explanation is required feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Felicia Jones



Christ Kingdom Church | 719 N. Hampton Suite #507 | Desoto, Tx 75115

Sr. Pastor Apostle Van J. Alexander / Pastor Jackie Alexander

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March 26, 2018

Greetings EWN Foundation

Regarding: Marguritte Johnson

I have known **Marguritte Johnson** for over 12 years; she has a genuine heart, her smile and excitement will give you motivation you need to keep moving forward and not give a second thought to distractions.

**Marguritte Johnson** extends wisdom and guidance when women don't know what to do in certain situations in their lives and she doesn't hold back anything to help them get their courage back.

**Marguritte Johnson** have experienced disappointments, but she have not allowed circumstances to stop her desire to share with others; her passion to help women is unlimited, her drive is unstoppable which avails women to be successful, persistent that they too can overcome circumstances and achieve anything in life by Faith.

It is with great honor to give testimony how powerful, caring, loving, and passionate **Marguritte Johnson** is toward those she knows and those she just meet a few seconds ago.

Thank you for nominated such a beautiful woman inside and out **Marguritte Johnson**.

Warm Regards,

Pastor Jackie Alexander

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Mailing Correspondence Po Box 891 Lancaster, Tx 75146 | Church #432.235.0341

Email: [christkingdomch@yahoo.com](mailto:christkingdomch@yahoo.com) Website: [Christkingdomchurch.org](http://Christkingdomchurch.org)

Renee Hayes  
1322 Kiwi Court  
Grand Prairie, TX 75051  
March 28, 2018

EWN Foundation

Dear Selection Committee:

It is with great pleasure that I highly recommend Marguritte S. Johnson. I have known her for several years.

Marguritte has always displayed a high degree of integrity, responsibility, and ambition. She is definitely a leader rather than a follower. In addition to her excellent scholastic accomplishments, she has proven her leadership ability by creating her own brand "MSJ". She is the founder of Stand 4 Sisterhood, a mentor and Co-Author/Compiler of Behind Her Brand Books.

She is also a most dependable team player amongst her comrades. Her good judgment and mature outlook ensure a logical and practical approach to her endeavors.

In the years that I have known and worked with Marguritte, I have developed enduring respect for both her work ethic and her problem-solving abilities. I can confidently say that Marguritte would make a positive and beneficial addition to any organization, association or societal group, and I am happy to give her my wholehearted endorsement.

If you have any further questions with regard to her background or qualifications, please do not hesitate to call me at 972-513-6542.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Renee Hayes", with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Renee Hayes  
CEO

3C's Caring Hands Special Needs Educational Consulting Agency

**To the Women of E-Network Foundation,**

What an amazing woman you have nominated and recognized, Mrs. Marguritte Johnson.

Marguritte joined the Farmers Branch Chamber of Commerce and has been very involved from the beginning. She is a bright light in our community and has a passion for helping others succeed. She is especially passionate about encouraging girls and women to work together for the greater good. She has a beautiful heart and her nature is to build up others for their success!

She is always willing to volunteer at community events and she only gives 100% to anything she puts her name on and stands behind.

Congratulations again to this deserving nominee, Marguritte Johnson.

Thank you,

**Nanette W. Foght**  
**President**

Farmers Branch Chamber of Commerce  
[2815 Valley View Lane, Suite 118](#)  
[Farmers Branch, TX 75234](#)  
972.243.8966 ext. 24 | 972.243.2524 fax  
[www.farmersbranchchamber.org](http://www.farmersbranchchamber.org)

**To Whom It May Concern,**

I am writing on behalf of Marguritte Johnson and how she has helped others succeed. I know her through volunteering through the Girls Inc. Program. Marguritte is the most caring, considerate and helpful person I know. She always puts others before herself. She never stops what's she is doing for others until she gets it accomplished. Marguritte never seems to amaze me in all she does. The way she helps and empowers the women and young girls of the community is so phenomenal. She is such a joy to work with and always has an uplifting spirit that lights up a room.

**Sincerely,**  
**Cherhonda Simmons,**  
**Recovery Support Specialist**  
**Phoenix House Foundation**

**Dear EWN Foundation,**

I attended Marguritte's "Maximize Your 501c3" MasterClass, although my 501c3 had not yet been established; however, I still desired to get the information on hand so I went so that I could receive the expertise in how to move forward with fundraising and applying for grants once my 501c3 is approved. Wow, I am so excited that I attended this epic workshop! It was worth the investment and I gained so much applicable knowledge. Marguritte is awesome. She is even helping to file for my 501c3 (now that's what you call a one stop shop)!!! Marguritte gave us an assignment to complete while in training and my package arrived in two days. She also walked us through various processes to show how to create partnerships with corporate sponsors. I would recommend her to the world because not only did she tell us what to do; however, she took it a step further and took the time to actually walk us through the process and individually if needed. Now that's what I consider an exceptional role model. Marguritte Johnson ROCKS!!! I'm looking forward to more of her mentoring and training.

**Erica Viser**  
**NuVision Solutions Transportation**  
**Owner**



Nanell Mawbey  
306 Squireswood Drive  
Carrollton, Texas 75006

March 27, 2018

RE: Marguritte Johnson

Stand 4 Sisterhood

I am a member of Soroptimist International of Dallas. Our mission is to advance the status of Women and Girls in local communities and throughout the world. We accomplish this by providing educational opportunities to allow women and girls to succeed.

This year Soroptimist of Dallas and Stand 4 Sisterhood created a partnership to improve the lives of young girls in our community. We came together to provide a five hour mentorship seminar to educate girls from the ages of 12-18. The program was called Dream it.....Be it.

Marguritte was instrumental in helping our Soroptimist members. She was able to provide us the facility to hold the event. In addition, through her contacts, she was able to expand our network to bring the total registration to 45 girls.

Marguritte was one of four presenters at the seminar. Her presentation on Bullying was one of the highlights of the morning. She brought a level of excitement and action as the audience on their feet, with the girls feeling good about themselves.

Marguritte truly lives her mission. She wants to be involved and see others succeed and reach their potential. You have chosen a woman worthy of recognition.

Nanell Mawbey, Chair

Dream It.....Be It

Soroptimist International of Dallas