

CHILD USA

THE THINK TANK FOR CHILD PROTECTION

**PRESS ADVISORY
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CHILD USA ANNOUNCES NEW NATIONAL AMBASSADORS FOR CHILD AND FAMILY PROTECTION LEAH REMINI AND MIKE RINDER

CHILD USA is excited to announce the addition of two new National Ambassadors to our team, Leah Remini and Mike Rinder! They will join the CHILD USA team as National Ambassadors for Child and Family Protection.



CHILD USA will honor Leah Remini and Mike Rinder at our Annual Celebration on November 7, 2019 for their work in exposing the Church of Scientology for its abuses against its members. They will receive the **Barbara Blaine Trailblazer Award** for their work on their A&E show *Leah Remini: Scientology and the Aftermath* where they have taken a brave, public stand for justice and given a voice to many victims of Scientology.

Leah Remini, Emmy Award winner, New York Times Best Selling author, actress, and producer. Leah Remini was a member of the Church of Scientology for 35 years. In 2013, Leah left the Church of Scientology and began exposing Scientology's abuses towards its members and more importantly, their children. In this work Remini created and produced the show *Leah Remini: Scientology and the Aftermath* which gave a voice to victims who were speaking out against their abusers. The documentary series has been recognized with, an Emmy Award, a Television Critics Association Award, two Gracie Awards, the Napte Award, the first-

ever Impact Award, and a Producers Guild Award.

Mike Rinder was born and raised in a Scientology family. He joined Scientology's elite Sea Organization at age 18 and eventually rose to sit on the Board of the Church of Scientology International. He was Scientology's International Spokesperson for over 20 years. Mike Rinder left the Scientology in 2007 and became a whistleblower against church abuses. He was featured in the HBO award winning documentary *Going Clear*, as well as many other media in the US and



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around the world. He co-starred alongside Leah Remini on the A&E show *Leah Remini: Scientology and the Aftermath* and will also be receiving the **Barbara Blaine Trailblazer Award**. Mike lost two children to Scientology's policy of disconnection, so his passion for the subject is very personal.

CHILD USA CEO Prof. Marci Hamilton and the nation's leading expert on SOL reform, said, "We at CHILD USA are thrilled to name Leah Remini and Mike Rinder to be National Ambassadors for Child and Family Protection. They are heroes for the downtrodden who are victimized in religious settings. We will be working closely together to expand CHILD USA's outreach and capacity to address the cutting-edge child protection issues of the day including access to justice for sex abuse victims, the family court crisis, and many others. Thanks from the bottom of my heart for their bravery and their mission to help others."

Leah Remini and Mike Rinder stated, "We are excited to be able to help expand the important message of CHILD USA. It is our passion to help protect children from predators and abuses and assist in reconnecting families torn apart by cults and extremist ideologies. Unfortunately, too much abuse remains hidden. Prof. Hamilton and her team are doing something about it and it an honor for us to be able to lend a hand to help shine the light and end the abuses."

AVAILABLE FOR COMMENTS

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About CHILD USA

CHILD USA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to ending child abuse and neglect through evidence-based social science and legal research. CHILD USA puts the best science and legal research together to identify needs and to advocate with our 501(c)(4) partner, CHILD USA Advocacy, to help millions of children and childhood victims at once through legal and policy advocacy. CHILD USA is the nation's leading organization that tracks and analyzes child sex abuse statutes of limitations in the United States and internationally. Sexual abuse and the maltreatment of children often occur in secret, behind closed doors, but have public consequences. Victims, their families, and the public pay a high price even decades after the violence ends. CHILD USA draws on the combined expertise of the nation's leading medical and legal academics to reach evidence-based solutions to persistent and widespread child abuse and neglect. For more information, visit <https://www.childusa.org>.



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