



NEW FRIENDS NEWS

An Update from New Friends New Life
Fall 2009

TENTH ANNUAL HOME TOUR

Park Cities Homes to be Featured in Holiday Tour



A hand-carved Italian plaque with Putti, circa 1896, sits above the mantel in the living room, and two urns, circa the 1890s, made from solid agate fitted with cast-bronze dore rest on either side of the mantel in the Leiser home.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, December 6, and plan to attend the Tenth Annual Home Tour. Dallas business owner Anita Carpenter will serve as the Chairperson of the Tour. The Honorary Chairperson, Judy Williams, is a two-time previous homeowner on the Tour and member of the NFNL Advisory Board.

One of the homes featured on the tour is located at 3012 Hanover. University Park homeowner Phyllis Leiser worked with Margaret Chambers, ASID, who shared her passion for antiques. These beautiful antiques will be open to view for those who attend this year's Holiday Home tour.

This year the Holiday Shoppe will be located in the Family Life Center at the Preston Road Church of Christ located at 6409 Preston Road. The Shoppe will feature items from past consignors and we will introduce some new consignors to the Shoppe. In addition to these gift items, we will again be selling Incredible Edibles and our Favorite Recipes Casseroles.

If you want to see more of the Leiser's impeccable home, be sure to pick up a copy of the July/August 2009 edition of *Texas Home & Living*.

NEW FRIENDS ART SHOW HONORS CARLA SUE NIX

The First Annual Art Show and Sale will be held to benefit the families of New Friends New Life on October 15, 2009 at the home of Elizabeth and Clint Norton of Dallas. The show honors the memory of NFNL volunteer Carla Sue Nix. She was a wonderful ambassador and advocate for New Friends at the Preston Road Church of Christ and within her various circles of influence. Among her many contributions, Carla organized and served the women's Wednesday night meal every week for more than a year. She was an exceptionally talented woman with a personal style that was magnetic and unforgettable. In addition to her numerous achievements in education, business, church,

and community, she was an accomplished artist, making the art show a perfect venue for raising awareness and funds for NFNL.

Donated works by amateur and professional artists representing a variety of media, including paintings, pottery, needle art and photography, will be displayed for sale. Three works created by Nix will be offered in a special silent auction. Attendees will also have an opportunity to win a selection by raffle.

Because space is limited, the Art Show is by invitation or reservation. If you would like to attend, please contact Candace Cain at 214-965-0935 or ccain@newfriendsnewlife.org.



CARLA SUE NIX
1935-2009

MESSAGE FROM
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



CANDACE CAIN

It's not about a program, it is about relationship.

People often ask what we attribute our success to at New Friends New Life. Along with knowing it is God's work, we believe it is because over the last ten years we have found a plan of action that works. We believe it is the vigilant and personal case management with accountability over a long period of time, combined with personal counseling, education, and spiritual guidance, that leads women to self-sufficiency. The value of relationship is reflected even in our terminology, deeming clients "protégés."

The New Friends New Life "program" is about relationships that raise expectations, not just completed tasks or handing out a check for assistance. This relationship-building flows from the protégé advocate to protégé as mother and from mother to child, as well. We find that when the mother changes, the children inevitably change. Through the new and good example of the mothers, the children gain tools for charting new expectations for their own futures.

We know the role of our protégé advocates who work directly with each protégé is absolutely necessary for this life-altering relationship building to occur. How our donors help is by funding our protégé advocates. Currently we are in danger of losing one of our advocates and are requesting that our constituency help us raise Michelle's salary for another year. We were able to hire Michelle due to a one-year grant from the Dallas Women's Foundation and hope that you might consider giving toward her valuable work so we can continue to impact our women and children for a lifetime.

We couldn't do this without you!
Candace

ALIGNING WITH NEXUS

Nexus, as defined by the ever-popular dictionary.com: a means of connection; tie; link. For many years, **By: Lauri Lanier** the Dallas-based female-**Protégé Advocate** only substance abuse recovery center, Nexus, has provided a link between a life stuck in the destructive cycle of addiction and a fresh start to a new life free from drugs and alcohol. Nexus serves adolescents, single women and women with children. Nexus also is involved in the Dallas Prostitution Diversion Initiative (PDI), a program that allows women picked up on prostitution charges a choice: a 45-day treatment program or jail.

If a woman chooses treatment as her option, Nexus is one of the local facilities that offers housing and oversees the woman's treatment plan. While staying at



the Nexus Center, the women receive counseling, addiction education, and attend 12-step recovery meetings in the Dallas area. Nexus has aligned itself with the New Friends New Life (NFNL) Wednesday night meetings as an additional recovery plan option. This opportunity is not just for women in the PDI program, but also for any woman at the facility who has a background in commercial sexual exploitation.



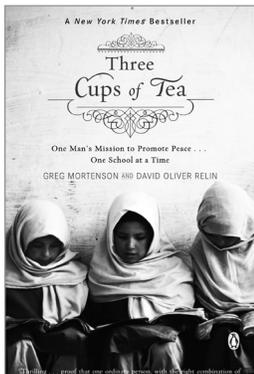
Over the past several months, Nexus has been bringing a group of women to our Wednesday night program. We were delighted to have them, but started to become aware of some obstacles to really being helpful to them. One of those obstacles was the fact that Wednesday nights don't allow much time for us to connect with them individually, talk to them in depth about the NFNL program and how it might be helpful to them. We also noticed that as women moved on from the residential program at Nexus, some stopped coming.

Our solution to these obstacles was to create an opportunity, outside of the Wednesday night meeting time, to meet with the women of Nexus. Every other week, I have been going to the Nexus Recovery Center to meet with the women who come or are interested in coming to our Wednesday night meetings. Nexus has provided a private room for us to meet for an hour every other Monday. I have an opportunity to share my story of recovery from drug and alcohol addiction that was part of my journey out of the sex industry. I am able to talk about the NFNL program - who we are and what we do and that we want to be a part of their support system even after they leave the Nexus facility. Our time together also affords them the opportunity to ask questions and talk about their experiences with us on Wednesdays.

Our Nexus sisters are returning each week, adding insight and discussion to our life skills and bible study; they are connecting with other women and are coming back even after they leave Nexus. We are grateful to have linked with Nexus to help build a solid bridge to new lives for the women and families of the Nexus Recovery Center.

2010 WINGS Luncheon
Three Cups of Tea
Featuring Author Greg Mortenson

The Seventh Annual WINGS Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, April 13, 2010 at Union Station in downtown Dallas. WINGS members Robin Bagwell and Ashlee Kleinert will co-chair the event, which will feature *New York Times* Bestselling Author Greg Mortenson.



The WINGS luncheon traditionally honors members who annually contribute to the ministry on various levels. Membership supports the work of NFNL by generating funds for direct protégé services, like rent, utilities, childcare, transportation and other basic needs. In addition to lending financial support, WINGS members act as ambassadors for NFNL in their own spheres of influence. For more information about membership, luncheon reservations and sponsorship opportunities, contact ccain@newfriendsnewlife.org.

After Mortenson's failed climb to the summit of K2, he accidentally stumbles onto the remote Pakistani village of Korphe--and the rest, as they say, is history. Much like what Umbau is doing in Rwanda as we speak, Mortenson is in the process of building schools (over 55 as of now) in remote, terrorist-ridden areas of Pakistan and Afghanistan, so that girls can have the chance for learning and education. In this, Mortenson believes, lies the foundational key to ending terrorism once and for all. In his book, *Three Cups of Tea*, Mortenson and co-author David Oliver Relin recount Mortenson's story from the very beginning up to our present day. From his failed climb on K2, seeing his first school completed, drinking tea with the Taliban, and to his meetings with Donald Rumsfeld and Rep. Mary Bono--this is a thought-provoking story of inspiration and justice, and provides a needed look at America's involvement in the war on terror.

WINGS

**Membership Drive
 Planned for Fall**

Plans are underway for a combined WINGS buffet lunch and advisory board meeting with a distinguished speaker this fall.



WINGS members Robin Bagwell and Kimberly Whitman.

Each WINGS member will be invited to attend the event and bring a guest. The event also will feature an update on the ministry and a preview of the Holiday Home Tour. Watch the mail for your invitation.

Again, many thanks, to all of our WINGS members for your continual support of New Friends New Life. We are so very grateful to have such dependable and compassionate WINGS members who allow the staff, Board and volunteers of NFNL to create new opportunities and transform the lives of so many women and their children who were previously trapped in a lifestyle that is destructive and demeaning.



**Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Journey to Change the World...
 One Child At A Time**



NEW FRIENDS NEW LIFE

NFNL helps women leave sexually oriented businesses through operating a program of assistance based on expectations of accountability and responsibility on the part of those helped.

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SUCCESS STORIES

New Friends New Life has been helping women in the Dallas area change their lives for more than ten years. Each success story represents hope for a new life and a new future. Participants, called Protégés, commit to changing their lifestyles, living within a budget, remaining drug and alcohol-free, and gaining the education or skills needed to acquire conventional employment. New Friends New Life provides a weekly group meeting to help form a community of support. This evening of support includes dinner, life skills education and a Biblically based curriculum designed to assist women in making the emotional and spiritual transition from working in sexually oriented businesses to a healthier life. A staff Licensed Professional Counselor addresses the needs of the children who attend the weekly gathering with their mothers. Each of our Protégés has her own story to tell.



A New Job for a New Friend. Angela has been an NFNL protégé since February 2008. Angela found employment at a very unique Dallas coffee shop. "It's a Grind" is located at 2901 Indiana Boulevard in a new red-brick building in Deep Ellum. This creative business project is funded by Serena Simmons Connelly and Cannon Flowers and offers a second chance for many; and it hopes to eventually give its profits back to the non-profit sector. "It's a Grind" and Angela were recently featured in the *Dallas Observer*. Angela loves working in an environment that treats its employees with respect and care. Not only does Angela make a "living" wage but has health benefits and is better able to sustain her young family. NFNL is grateful for wonderful partners who are helping make a difference in our community. For more information about this venture, you may visit www.demeterproject.com.



It's Not What You Know, It's Who You Know. The old adage is especially true when locating employment opportunities for NFNL protégés, many of whom lack job skills or training or have difficult criminal backgrounds. One thing the women need is a referral or an introduction. Such was the case with Jennifer, who finished dental assistant training with glowing grades. But her lack of experience kept her from landing a job. A new member of our education/employment advisory team heard her problem and offered to introduce Jennifer to her dentist. As a result, Jennifer landed an interview for an open position. Whether the position turns out to be an internship for Jennifer to gain on-the-job experience or a full-time position, Jennifer wins. Do you know someone who might hire an NFNL protegee? The women need your referrals.

MEMORY & HONOR GIFTS

In Memory Of:

AL HODGE

- Cheryl Brandon
- Ronald R. Carlo
- Pat Cox
- Camille Drummond
- Andrea Dyer
- Sharon Engle
- Patricia Gibson
- Sherry Jeffcoat
- Jan Osborn
- Sandy Riffe

CARLA SUE NIX

- Roberta Bracken
- Linda Brown
- Irene & Jim Burleson
- Julia Butts
- Susan W. Cruser
- Edward L. Deloach
- Caroline Denison
- Sue Dorsey
- Andrea Dyer
- Mayme D. Evans
- Sally Fifer
- Michael Frank
- Scherry F. Johnson
- Jack A. Lavine
- Susan H. Lowry
- Jim Marcum
- Elizabeth S. Morgan
- Nancye & Frank Myer
- Ellen B. Niewyk
- Barbara & Bill Perryman
- Sylvia A. Rogers
- Scherry F. Johnson
- James Samuel
- Fran & David Schmidt
- Patricia A. Scott
- Lu R. Smith
- Scott A. Vehslage

In Honor Of:

MARLA BOONE

- John Collins

JANELL JONES

- Barbara Wolf

BARBARA HILL MOORE

- John Collins

SERVICE AUXILIARY

Stationery sale kicks off NFNL organization

The new Service Auxiliary recently held its first fundraiser.

French Blue Designs donated thousands of Christmas cards, invitations, birth announcements and thank you notes to New Friends New Life. A two-day sale was held at the NFNL office on McKinney Avenue; \$810 was raised at this event.

We currently have an ample selection of these items, which will be sold at the Home Tour Holiday Shoppe. If you are interested in getting a head start on your Christmas cards and gifts, you may contact the NFNL office to view the current stock.

Launched in June 2009, the NFNL Service Auxiliary has signed up more than 35 women who support the mission of New Friends New Life. The Service Auxiliary offers support to our



cause through annual dues, donations, volunteering and special events. Memberships are \$50 annually. It is not too late to become a founding member of the NFNL Service Auxiliary. Ignite your compassion to use your energy and talent with this service group as we support the women of New Friends New Life.

Sign up today at:
www.newfriendsnewlife.org

NFNL CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

"I remember the fun of new school supplies and clothes. The smell of the crayons, the sharp pencils, the bright folders and new shoes are part of the fun of preparing for a new school year. I believe every child should be able to start the school year with new clothes and supplies."

-Julie Clark
NFNL Volunteer



"Thank you for my new clothes and school supplies. We can't wait to show our teachers our new backpacks. We love school!"

A summer in the NFNL children's program provides a chance for the students to develop new relationships with

By: Roxanne Wright adults who care about their future. Each year at the end of May, our regular volunteers take a break for the summer, and we provide the occasion for various groups to come in and conduct an evening with

our students. We have had a variety of talented and giving people devote time to our kids.



I would like to take the opportunity to thank the following Churches, individuals and organizations who have given of their time this summer: Park Cities National Charity League, Preston Road Church of Christ Elders and wives: Ray and Cathie Currey, Larry and Janet Pearson, and Ron and Elaine Fuqua, PRCC Singles and young married classes, PRCC members Kay Neve, Jesse O'Brien, Kim Brentham, Board member Jan Osborn and family, Auxiliary Member Martha Leeson and Willow bend Bible Church. The students have thoroughly enjoyed the crafts, games and time

these caring people shared with them. As the summer comes to a close, and we look forward to fall and the beginning of a new school year, I would like to encourage you to remember students who will be in need of supplies and clothes for the upcoming academic year. For three years now, I have had the amazing opportunity of witnessing these precious children mature emotionally, educationally and spiritually as their lives become more secure and stable. I promise a contribution to these children's education is an investment which will bring many returns.

DAUGHTER OF PROTÉGÉ ATTENDS SUMMER CAMP

Bill Minick, Texoma Youth Camp President, had an idea. What if the camp partnered with New Friends New Life and sent children of the protégés to summer camp? Minick shared the idea with Bob Harris, former TYC President and Director of the Riverside Youth Session, and Harris welcomed Kelsey to join their group. Kelsey's counselor, Tracy Truax, said, "no matter what we were doing, she always had a smile on her face—even during KP! She was a sweetheart."

Since 1965, TYC has operated summer camps on the shores of Lake Texoma. Today, TYC strives to promote value and character-building experiences by utilizing the beautiful surrounding of Lake Texoma. Life-enriching principles are taught in fun and interactive ways. Emphasis is on having fun, making friends, honoring family, and building faith - by instilling positive changes that can be taken back home.

The camp is sponsored and operated by area Churches of Christ. If you are interested in sponsoring an NFNL child, please contact Candace Cain at NFNL or Bill Minick at bminick@partnersource.com.

"KELSEY'S BIG SMILE WAS ONLY SURPASSED BY HER BIG HEART."

-BOB HARRIS
DIRECTOR
TEXOMA YOUTH CAMP



RAISING AWARENESS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN WOMEN

What do you think of when you hear the word prostitute? What about when you hear the term sexual exploitation? One may bring to mind a woman who made a choice to live her life a certain way, while the other term evokes thoughts of victimization, helplessness, and a lack of choices.

By: Irie Session Protégé Advocate

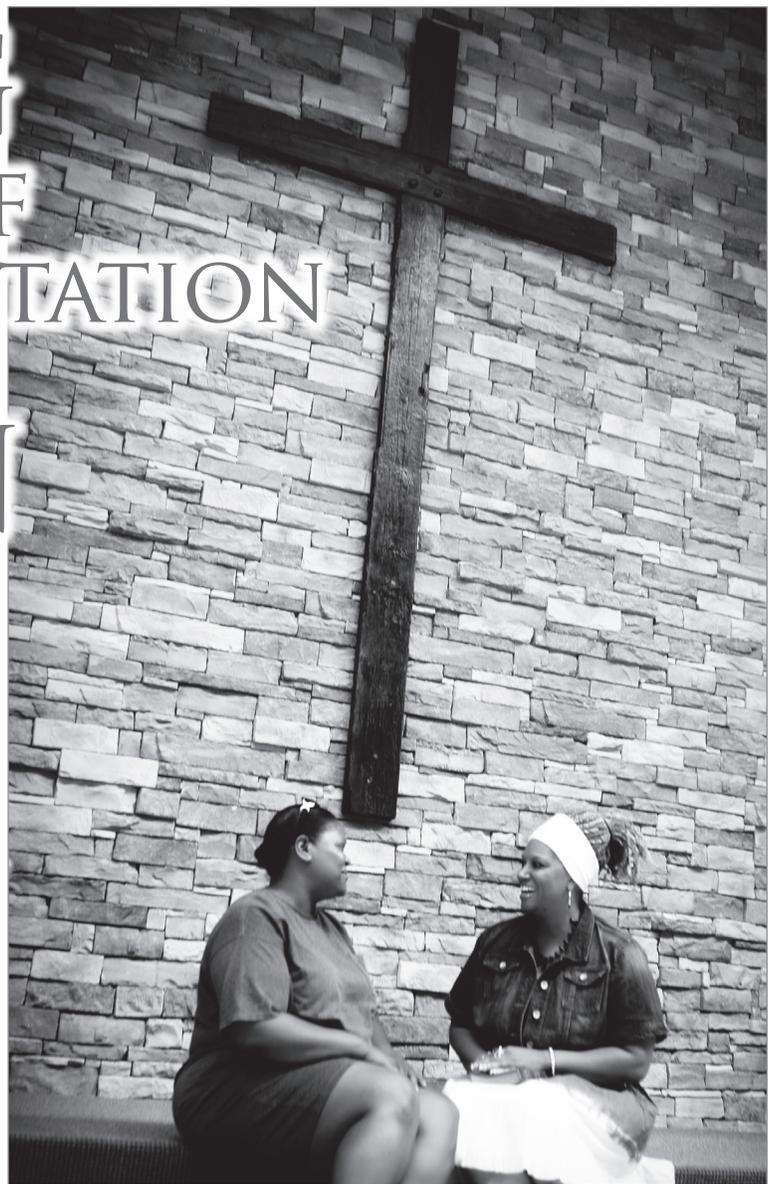
This article is an attempt to show that both prostitution and sexual exploitation are two sides of the same coin. Prostitution is a form of human trafficking and is considered commercial sexual exploitation, or what professionals in the field call CSE. As a means of illustration I'll share with you the story of Sharon, a protégé of New Friends New Life.

Sharon is a thirty-eight year old mother of three. When she was twelve years old her mother threw her away. Sharon was sent to live with a pimp, who was also a drug dealer and terribly abusive to her. He was also Sharon's uncle. In Sharon's words, her uncle "turned her out."

HUMAN TRAFFICKING HAS MANY LAYERS
AND ONE FORM OF IT IS
FAMILIAL PROSTITUTION—
THE SELLING OF ONE'S FAMILY MEMBER
FOR SEX IN EXCHANGE FOR
DRUGS, SHELTER, OR MONEY.

To be "turned out" means to be introduced to a life that is cruel, dangerous, and damaging to one's soul—he made Sharon, a twelve year-old little girl, have sex with adult men for money. This is the heart of human trafficking: forced/coerced sexual exploitation. You see, human trafficking isn't just an international phenomenon; it occurs in Any City, USA - right here in the DFW area - right in Sharon's own family.

Human trafficking has many layers and one form of it is familial prostitution—the selling of one's family member for sex in exchange for drugs, shelter, or money.



Many of the women served by New Friends New Life have experienced this form of trafficking. Sadly, this is a large and overlooked problem in the United States; in fact 9 out of 10 assessments performed by Shared Hope International (an organization addressing domestic minor trafficking in the U.S.), reported familial prostitution as a severe form of domestic minor trafficking occurring in the community. The Federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act identifies these parents/relatives as traffickers.

But let's get back to Sharon's story.

As a victim of commercial sexual exploitation, Sharon began using drugs to medicate her pain and ease her feelings of shame, self-hatred, and worthlessness. As an adult, and because she had no skills, support or education, she continued to trade sex for money in order to survive. That is, until four years ago. One night Sharon came to the Wednesday Night Bible study and soon thereafter joined New Friends New Life. Sharon began attending the Wednesday Night Bible class and receiving mentoring and support. Today, Sharon is a loving mother, with a full-time job she simply loves. Last year she joined a church where she presently serves as Director of Hospitality. Sharon has a new life in Christ and new friends who love, honor, and respect her. Sharon is no longer being sexually exploited.

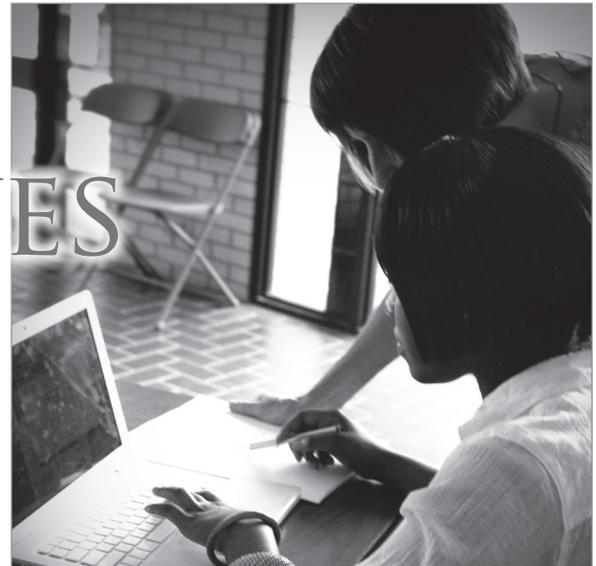
BUSINESSES CARVING OUT NEW LIVES

Imagine competing for a job in today's market without your resume showing years of accomplishments, your college education, or your experiences from previous employment. It is a daunting task for NFNL protégés to search for conventional employment. Even with the **Children's Advocate** resources NFNL can provide to prepare the women for the job hunt, it can be an uphill battle for our women to find any employment. Sometimes those that find employment are still unable to pay their basic living expenses with their full-time job.

Through one of our Employment and Education Advisory Team mentors, Joyce Shoop, an amazing opportunity developed to help address our women's employment plight. Shoop knew the difference it would make in a woman's journey if a quality company was willing to take a chance in hiring her. Knowing this, when Shoop ran into an influential member of a local company in the elevator, she suggested this company partner with NFNL.

The company was excited about the opportunity to use its business to help women change their lives, and later the company offered a few women a year-long internship with a decent wage and benefits. Within a month, three women received the news they had been hired by this corporation.

Upon being hired, one of the women shared with the company contact: "You can't even imagine what this opportunity means to me." For her it was not only a chance to earn enough money for her living expenses, or a work environment that would value and respect her. This was a moment



in which she felt the course of her life change, and she saw herself differently.

We are grateful for the opportunities this company is giving the women and hope this pilot program will be successful for both the company and our women. We hope this program can serve as a model for other businesses that are willing to help carve out a new life experience for one of our women and her children through internship or employment opportunities.

If you are interested in more information about how your business or others might be involved, email Lalla Shackelford, Program Director, at lshackelford@newfriendsnewlife.org

ABI FERRIN PARTNERS WITH NFNL

Designer Works Personally With NFNL



Millie Winston, Martha Leeson, Abi Ferrin, Liddy Breeden and Kathy Holt model Ferrin's designs.

When Martha Leeson attended the WINGS Luncheon in April with member Liddy Breeden, she didn't expect to win a special afternoon with Dallas Fashion Designer Abi Ferrin. But on June 23, Leeson and nine of her friends toured Ferrin's designer loft with storefront space on Lamar street. Abi was named Texas' Next Top Designer by Stanley Korshak and the Dallas Fashion Incubator in 2007.

Over the last year, Ferrin has taken the fashion world by storm. Her collection features form-flattering dresses, tops, skirts, pants, and jackets, all made using the finest fabrics. It doesn't stop there. Ferrin's motto, Fashion with Freedom and Purpose, is the driving force behind her brand.

**ABI FERRIN EMPOWERS AND EMPLOYS WOMEN
RESCUED FROM THE SEX TRADE IN NEPAL BY INCORPORATING
THEIR HAND-MADE BUTTONS INTO HER DESIGNS.**

Ferrin purchases the buttons at fair market value; then donates an additional 600% of the asking price back to the organization.

Ferrin and her team are regular volunteers at the NFNL Wednesday evening protégé classes. NFNL hopes their willingness to serve will inspire others to do the same.

While changing the world one outfit at a time, Ferrin is redefining the meaning of "fashion designer." Call her a freedom fighter. Call her a trend-maker. Call her the next big thing. Abi Ferrin will continue to smile and call herself a "designer."



**P.O. Box 192378
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NEW FRIENDS | NEW LIFE

Staff

- Candace Cain** • Executive Director
- Lalla Shackelford** • Program Director
- Lauri Lanier** • Protégé Advocate
- Irie Session** • Protégé Advocate
- Michelle Spurgeon** • Protégé Advocate
- Roxanne Wright** • Children's Advocate

Michael Boone • Counsel

NEW FRIENDS NEWS

Fall 2009

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New Friends News

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women leave sexually oriented businesses.

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New Friends | New Life
was organized as Amy's Friends, and is now
operating as New Friends | New Life.