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Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award

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Member of
actalliance

Berlin, 27.03.2018

Letter of recommendation for the nomination of Jan Willems and Jackie Lubeck of Theatre Day Productions for the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award

Dear Madame, dear Sir,

On behalf of Bread for the World I would like to endorse the nomination of **Jan Willems** and **Jackie Lubeck** of Theatre Day Productions (TDP) - our long-standing and trusted partner and a worthy candidate we are mostly proud to support - for the R.F.K. Human Rights Award.

Bread for the World is one of the largest German NGOs active in a broad spectrum of development and relief work worldwide, with advocacy for human rights being one important part of our mission. We support human rights defenders and activists as well as HR organizations in a lot of countries all across the globe.

Bread for the World has supported Theatre Day Productions, founded and directed by Jan Willems and Jackie Lubeck, as our partner organization since 2004.

Among other things, we appreciate the most that TDP unflaggingly continues to reach out to children and youth in Gaza, promoting in the first place children's rights for self-expression, education and play. Guided by this intention and armed with the determination that will never stop to amaze, Theatre Day Productions has not stopped evolving and developing new instruments for human rights work despite constantly changing political realities and challenges on the ground in Gaza. This adaptive capacity for continuous learning, improvising and moving ahead inspires and challenges direct beneficiaries of TDP projects, hundreds of thousand of kids and youth over the years, and donors like us alike. Such resilience and determination conveyed by Mr. Willems and Ms. Lubeck have carried the organization in its endeavor to uplift hundreds of thousands human spirits, give them hope and direction. Specifically, this has been achieved through introducing drama to Gaza children and teachers, integrating it in school curriculums and summer camps, thus allowing boys and girls, young men and women to find a vent and a

means for expressing all the heartbreak and fears of everyday life in a safe and accepting environment – on theatre stage. Fifteen years of teaching drama to kids, training teachers in drama and animation, professional actor trainings, school curriculums adapted to feature drama and theatre, yearly summer camps - hundreds thousand of lives touched against the backdrop of political turmoil and instability, changing ruling parties and deteriorating living conditions. We are truly in awe at the hard work and devotion demonstrated by TDP and the success they have achieved in promoting human rights in the face of all the challenges.

I strongly recommend Jackie Lubeck and Jan Willems for the R.F.K. Humans Rights Award for their successful and impressive work in promoting human rights in one of the most conflict-ridden places on earth.

Yours sincerely,



Lutz Wollziefer

Head of the Middle East, Caucasus and Central Asia Unit

**Brot
für die Welt**

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Evangelischer
Entwicklungsdienst

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