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# LINDA SMITH

Innovate. Motivate. Create. Inspire.



## Living the Dream Life



There's no doubt that the past several years have been momentous, and it's fair to say that on reflection we humans are a resilient lot. In the past few years friends and family lost loved ones due to Covid and other tragic circumstances. I too weathered the loss of Christopher, a most special child, and became Nonna Linda to my beautiful Lilyclaire, I gained and lost family and friends for a myriad of reasons, left a job that I loved after 40 years and, through it all grew stronger for the experience.

I am an optimist at heart, indefatigable I am told, deriving strength from a look backwards every once in a while, to that little English girl who refused to let the lottery of life dictate her future. Learning along life's highway and interpreting the past gives new meaning for the future. As another year looms, I can't help but pause and consider; what will the next few years bring?

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# The Joy of Creating

In 1993 to celebrate the successful campaign to build Opportunity Village's very first campus on West Oakey Blvd., I launched an event that I propitiously named The Magical Forest. Inspired by my beloved son Christopher, the event was a way to introduce the masses to Opportunity Village and the folks it serves in Las Vegas.



[Click for  
Tickets](#)

Successful beyond my wildest dreams; drawing on friends and family to man the entrance and make hot chocolate nightly, the event grew in leaps and bounds raising hundreds of millions of dollars over the years.

In creating this event, I had not considered the effect it would have on disability causes worldwide. Today the event has been copied in cities and countries across the globe...as far away as the Republic of Cyprus and around the corner in Southern California! One organization that I am most proud to help is Noah Homes in San Diego, a world respected residential community for folks with intellectual and developmental disabilities. At this special place I am proud that I had a hand in creating Noah's very own Enchanted Village, a magical holiday experience that attracts people from across California and surrounding States.



December 16-22, 2022 | 5:00-8:00 p.m.

\$14.99 Adults | \$9.99 Children\*

\*Early bird pricing available until November 27th

Please contact [mburke@noahhomes.org](mailto:mburke@noahhomes.org) for volunteer inquiries, and [krenvall@noahhomes.org](mailto:krenvall@noahhomes.org) for sponsorship opportunities.



Buy Tickets  
Today at  
[EnchantedVillage.org](http://EnchantedVillage.org)

Click for  
Tickets

Not satisfied with taking over Christmas in Las Vegas, in 2005 I created a running event titled the Las Vegas Great Santa Run.



Register  
Today

The Las Vegas Great Santa Run, at conception had an eye on world domination for the most Santa Clauses in one place at one time. After

launching the event in downtown Las Vegas in 2004, it wasn't long before friendly competitors from across the globe joined in a coalition of new challengers including Liverpool and Tasmania who's race organizers quickly became dear friends.

More recent, a tenacious disability group from LA entered the arena with an aim to take world domination for the most Santa's running. I am proud to have helped launch the California Great Santa Stroll, in support of Mychal's Learning Place, and they are giving folks across the globe a "run" for their money.



**MYCHAL'S**  
Learning Place

presents  
**THE CALIFORNIA  
GREAT SANTA STROLL**  
a 5K fun run, walk, or stroll  
**12•10•2022**

Join hundreds of "Santas" as we  
stroll from Hermosa Beach to  
Manhattan Beach & back!

Special thanks to:  
*C.A. Hartnell*

**SOUTH BAY**  
FORD LINCOLN

Chevron  
HAMMITT kinecta  
banking done different

WANDA EXPRESS  
CHASE MYTEL

Media Sponsor:  
**KTLA**  
LA5.com

Early Bird  
Registration:  
\$35 for Adults, \$15 for  
Children.  
Every registration gets  
a Santa Suit while  
supplies last!

**Register  
Today**

I encourage you to take a moment to visit and support these Magical efforts this holiday season.

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## Support the Christopher Smith Foundation

The need for caregiving has only grown, and families are in need of YOUR help. That's where the Christopher Smith Foundation comes in.

Today, we can take actions that will affect tomorrow's outcome, and the lives of those who are dependent on the care and attention of special healers.

A donation today will be put to immediate use towards the development and implementation of our programs. Programs that provide respite to families, scholarships to future caregivers and onsite hospital support to staff, and sitting services to patients.

[Create a Facebook Fundraiser](#)

[Make a Facebook Donation](#)

[Donate Online](#)

We appreciate you liking the [Facebook Page](#) and for your continued support for the Christopher Smith Foundation and deserving caregivers.

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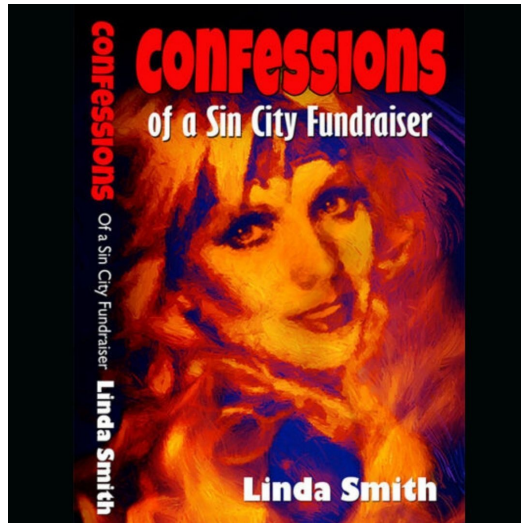
## The Author



This lovely group of book lovers chose my book; Confessions of a Sin City Fundraiser, for their 2022 Fall season book club meeting. Gracious and fun, these fabulously accomplished women hosted me to an awesome dinner and we had many laughs and even shed a tear or two as we discussed sweet Christopher Smith the inspiration for the book and career. The icing on the cake was when they each also purchased my first book 'Unwanted'. I am so honored to have met these lovely humans and look forward to more meetups with this terrific group of inspiring ladies.



[Click image to purchase.](#)



*Click image to purchase.*

All proceeds from book sales go to support the [Christopher Smith Foundation](#).

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## The Consultant



Through the years I've worked alongside some magnificent nonprofits to help them reach their fundraising goals. I encourage them to stop thinking small and identify what they ultimately want to accomplish for the people they serve.

Could your organization use some support navigating fundraising efforts? I'm here to provide guidance and help your organization become a fundraising machine.

Let's work together!

[Learn  
More](#)

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## The Speaker & Trainer

### Board Training at Collaboration Center Foundation

My heart will always be with organizations committed to the disability population. Two weeks ago I had the pleasure of working with the Board of Directors and staff at [Collaboration Center Foundation](#). This organization is a vast disability network that is focused on social inclusion, family and peer engagement, recreation, therapy and education.







**Contact  
Me**

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## Non-Profit Partners

(Current and Past)





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