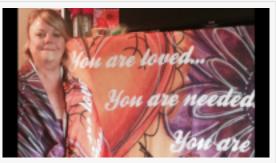


## Burn Survivor Designs Blankets of Beauty: Helping Burn Survivor Children Feel More Loved

Kelly Falardeau, a burn survivor since the age of two-yearsold wants burn children at burn camp to feel loved, needed and wanted with her 'Blankets of Beauty'.

STONY PLAIN, ALBERTA, CANADA, July 8, 2015 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Imagine this: your children are playing outside, their squeals and giggles of delight comforting to the soul.



Burn camp, blanket of love,

Then the pitch changes. Screams of fear and pain. In an instant you are beside the baby, ripping burning clothes off her, not even remembering how you got from the house, not even feeling the flames on your hands.

Kelly Falardeau was just two-years-old when she was burned over 75% of her body. Months of agony in hospital followed – then more hospitalizations every other summer when other kids enjoyed the outdoors. In many ways, Kelly missed a normal childhood. Scar tissue does not stretch or grow like normal skin, so what remaining skin was normal had to be 'cultivated' to replace scar tissue to the degree possible. Every second year to age 20.

But there were still terrible scars. And as if summer hospitalizations weren't enough, the rest of the year in school brought taunts and name-calling from classmates and others. Such experiences break thousands of children and adults worldwide every year, bringing isolation and depression and, later, so often poverty. In poorer countries small children are sometimes deserted by parents and left to die in the hospital.

But not Falardeau; in adversity she found inner strength. She endured the countless hospitalizations, the bullying, being treated as an oddity. Instead of buckling under the pressure, she used it to gain strength most of her tormentors from childhood would never know.

Now, as an international speaker and four-time bestselling author she gives strength and encouragement to other burn survivors, helping them to see that what's inside the package is far more valuable than the wrapping.

And now, with her painting, she wants to bring comfort and encouragement to 1,000 burn survivors in the form of <u>blankets</u> decorated with one of her paintings and the slogan "You are Loved, You are Needed, You are Wanted" offering burn survivors to feel more love.

With burn camps just around the corner, Falardeau is looking for individuals, sponsors and corporations that will buy 1, 10, 100, 1,000 blankets to donate them to burn survivors. "It would be wonderful if someone wanted to adopt a whole <u>burn camp</u> (of 100 kids) and give a blanket to every burn child there," Falardeau said.

What is a burn camp?

Burn camp is the one week of a year where a burn kid can be a normal kid and just have fun, be free of judgement and being teased or bullied by others. It's the one week where they get to meet other kids who are just like them and make new friends who can support them in ways only a <u>burn survivor</u> can.

Now a single mother with her own three children, she has a successful motivational speaking business and travels all over the world sharing her message of hope and love.

Falardeau has known more adversity than most and emerged stronger for it. She teaches others how to do the same by sharing her message on stage, writing books (she is currently a 4x bestselling author) and through her artwork. She was also the recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, Top 10 Most Powerful & Influential Speaker and YWCA Woman of Distinction 2013.

Falardeau has created an Indiegogo campaign in an effort to support this movement, go to <u>www.BlanketsForBurnKids.com</u> or <u>http://igg.me/at/BlanketsForBurnKids</u>

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