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Kering Foundation renews commitment to combating gender-based violence

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Kering CEO Franois-Henri Pinault and Kering Foundation board director Salma Hayek Pinault join celebrity guests at the second annual Caring for Women dinner on Sept. 12, 2023. Image credit: Kering

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

French luxury conglomerate Kering is celebrating 15 years since the founding of its philanthropic arm.

Established in 2008, the Kering Foundation has played an active role in the fight for women's safety and well-being over the years, now announcing the addition of children to its mission. Friends of the house have helped aid efforts as the organization enters a new era this month, raising over \$3 million in charitable funds during the second annual Caring for Women dinner.

"In 2008, we knew that to protect women from violence, we needed to also protect their children," said Franois-Henri Pinault, chairman and CEO of Kering, in a statement.

"Over the course of our 15 years of action, we have also learned that protecting and caring for children is a fundamental lever for preventing violence in adulthood," Mr. Pinault said. "Today, it seems natural, and, above all, necessary to commit ourselves to focusing on both levels in order to strengthen our impact.

"More than ever, this area of intervention and those who work in it need major support to break not only the taboo surrounding this issue, but also the cycle of intergenerational violence."

Taking action against domestic abuse

The Kering Foundation has managed to reach 1 million women survivors since its start by way of partnerships with local NGOs, supporting the work of organizations across the United States, France, Italy, Mexico, the United Kingdom and Korea.

Moving forward, the foundation is strengthening its commitment, expanding the scope of its focus as leaders seek to eradicate violence against children, "in particular childhood sexual violence," per a company statement.

Continuing progress sparked by last year's inaugural affair (see story), the Kering Foundation kicked off its next chapter with the Caring for Women dinner, hosted at The Pool in New York City on Sept. 12.

Charged by Mr. Pinault and Kering Foundation board director Salma Hayek Pinault, additional event co-chairs of the dinner event included American actress Zo Kravitz, American artist Cindy Sherman, American model Christy

Turlington Burns, American actress Olivia Wilde, American businesswoman Oprah Winfrey and Pakistani activist Malala Yousafzai.

Items from Alexander McQueen, Balenciaga, Bottega Veneta, Gucci, Saint Laurent and other Kering houses were sold in an auction that centered the evening affair.

Proceeds from the sale will benefit the Malala Fund, the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) and the New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault.

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