**Bio – April Rooks, Amped Kids Founder**

April Rooks is a singer songwriter who has performed professionally and taught voice and piano lessons for over twenty years. Always having a heart for community and children serving in ministries and as a volunteer for many nonprofits, April became involved with the Hall Dawson CASA in 2007 and that is where she would be changed by the story of a young lady who shared that music was what helped her to “get through the dark times of her life in foster care.”

The following year, in 2018, April founded Amped Kids Foundation with a mission to help foster children heal from trauma just as music as helped her in her difficult times in childhood and being a domestic violence survivor. Working with children as a music instructor, April has personally experienced the power of music to transform children’s lives giving them an opportunity to be seen, heard and express their deepest emotions through the power of song.

Music is a lifeline for many children who find it difficult or impossible to share what they have gone through but music creates a sacred space where we can tell our story and not be in fear of judgement. Music is also a place of community and connection where we find strength, hope and safety that we need to have healthy relationships and find pathway to healing.

Her vision is to bring a shift into our communities through investing in our children who have been abused, neglected, and suffering from trauma.