



CHILDREN'S MERCY HOSPITALS AND CLINICS PATIENT WILL REPRESENT KANSAS AS PART OF A GROUP OF YOUNG MEDICAL CHAMPIONS

Weston Funk will visit Capitol Hill to share his remarkable medical experience in Children's Miracle Network's program, Champions Across America presented by Walmart and Sam's Club

Kansas City, Mo., February 13, 2009 — Children's Miracle Network has named a Champion Across America for Kansas.

Weston Funk, 11, who was diagnosed with Juvenile Myelomonocytic Leukemia, will join other child ambassadors from every state as part of the Children's Miracle Network program, Champions Across America presented by Walmart and Sam's Club. The program brings attention to the important work being done at children's hospitals by honoring remarkable children like Weston who have triumphed despite severe medical challenges.

At 8 years old, Weston Funk of Overland Park, Kan., suddenly began tiring easily and had a fever that wouldn't go away. His parents took him to the doctor just to have him checked out. Shockingly, Weston was admitted to the ICU at Children's Mercy the next day. He had juvenile myelomonocytic leukemia (JMML), a very rare type, and his only hope was a bone marrow transplant. Weston had several rounds of chemotherapy until a donor match was found, and he received the transplant on Thanksgiving Day.

Weston, now 11, uses his experiences to help other children with similar challenges. He once met a young girl at a Radiothon event who was just beginning cancer treatment. Weston sensed this girl was scared and anxious, so he comforted her by sharing his own story of leukemia.

Weston and his fellow champions will travel for one week – first to Florida for the Children's Miracle Network Celebration event at Walt Disney World Resort, and then to Washington D.C. Weston will visit Capitol Hill to share his story of medical victory, representing the 17 million children treated at Children's Miracle Network hospitals each year throughout the United States.

Since 1987, Children's Miracle Network and Wal-Mart have worked together to help children by raising money for children's hospitals. Walmart and Sam's Club associates, customers and members have raised and contributed more than \$460 million for children's hospitals, with more than \$5 million benefiting Children's Miracle Network hospitals in Kansas.

“Over the past two decades, Children's Miracle Network, its hospitals and especially the children treated have found a very special place in the hearts of Walmart and Sam's Club associates,” said



Margaret McKenna, president of the Wal-Mart Foundation. “Our support for Champions Across America builds on the emotional connection our associates have with the children cared for by these hospitals.”

About Children’s Miracle Network

Children's Miracle Network is a non-profit organization dedicated to saving and improving the lives of children by raising funds for children’s hospitals. Each year, the 170 Children's Miracle Network hospitals provide the finest medical care, life-saving research and preventative education to help millions of kids overcome diseases and injuries of every kind. To learn more go to www.ChildrensMiracleNetwork.org.

About Philanthropy at Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. (NYSE: WMT) and the Wal-Mart Foundation are proud to support the charitable causes that are important to customers and associates in their own neighborhoods. Through its philanthropic programs and partnerships, the Wal-Mart Foundation supports initiatives focused on creating opportunities in education, workforce development, environmental sustainability, and health and wellness. In 2007, Walmart, Sam’s Club and the Wal-Mart Foundation gave \$296 million to communities across the United States. To learn more, visit www.walmartfoundation.org.

About Children’s Miracle Network of Greater Kansas City

The Children’s Miracle Network of Greater Kansas City is a non-profit organization dedicated to saving and improving the lives of children by raising funds for local children’s hospitals. In Kansas City, proceeds are divided equally between The University of Kansas Medical Center and Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics. At these top-ranked medical centers support benefits neonatal intensive care, pediatric cancer care, cardiology, diabetes care, and orthopedics, along with many other children’s programs and treatments. To learn more, visit www.cmnkc.org.

About Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics

Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics is one of the country’s premiere free-standing, independent pediatric clinical, academic and research medical centers, with 314 licensed beds, more than 40 pediatric subspecialty clinics, and the region’s only Level I pediatric trauma center. Our faculty of pediatric subspecialists is one of the largest in the country. To learn more, visit www.childrensmercy.org.

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