## Northwestern Mutual Collaborates with Special Spaces to Surprise Children Affected by Cancer with Dream Bedroom Makeovers

Milwaukee eight-year-old surprised with newly designed bedroom inspired by her love for the outdoors

MILWAUKEE, Sept. 14, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- In recognition of its Childhood Cancer Program's 10-year anniversary, Northwestern Mutual, through its Foundation, is collaborating with Special Spaces to surprise 10 children across the U.S. affected by childhood cancer with dream bedroom makeovers.

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A childhood cancer diagnosis changes every aspect of a child's life. Attending doctor's appointments, visiting the hospital, and receiving treatments and surgeries all contribute to kids being out of their comfort zone. Together, Northwestern Mutual and Special Spaces are creating spaces where children can escape from the realities of their cancer diagnosis, and simply enjoy being a kid.

"Every child deserves a special place at home to call their own, and it is especially invaluable for children with cancer to have a place where they can escape their worries and regain their strength after doctor appointments, treatment, and hospital visits," said Steve Radke, President of the Northwestern Mutual Foundation. "At this milestone anniversary, our commitment to creating moments of happiness for children with cancer has never been stronger, and our dedicated volunteers are making it happen by creating dream bedrooms for children across the country."

On Sept. 8, the partnership kicked off in Northwestern Mutual's hometown of Milwaukee, surprising Autumn, a brave eight-year-old who loves the outdoors and is currently facing leukemia, with a newly designed room to call her own.

Dedicated volunteers from the company's Milwaukee-based Lueder Financial Group and Holter Financial Group worked tirelessly to bring Autumn's vision to life and create a space for her to sleep, play, heal and spend time away from the challenges of her illness. Inspired by Autumn's love for the outdoors, sunshine, and stars, the crew of volunteers worked together to paint the room, create custom decorations, and organize the space with new furniture to fit the theme. During the big reveal, Autumn was surprised with her dream bedroom, which has an outdoorsy feel, complete with a special campsite area featuring a toy campfire for her and her family and friends to enjoy.

Throughout the fall, volunteers from Northwestern Mutual's local offices will surprise a child affected by cancer with a dream bedroom makeover in 10 cities across the country: Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Dubuque, Iowa, Buffalo, New York, Chicago, Illinois, Chattanooga, Tennessee, Indianapolis, Indiana, St. Louis, Missouri, Omaha, Nebraska, Cleveland, Ohio, and Boca Raton, Florida.

Since 2012, Northwestern Mutual has been committed to accelerating the search for better treatments and cures for childhood cancer, while also supporting families undergoing treatment and survivors struggling with lasting effects. With the help of its dedicated employees and network of financial advisors, the company has contributed more than \$45 million to the cause and has funded more than 520,000 hours of pediatric oncology research.

## **About Northwestern Mutual Foundation**

The mission of the Northwestern Mutual Foundation is to improve the lives of children and families in need. The Foundation has given more than \$400 million since its inception in 1992 and is designed to create lasting impact in the communities where the company's employees and financial representatives live and work. We accomplish this by combining financial support, volunteerism, thought leadership and convening community partners to deliver the best outcomes. Our efforts are focused nationally on curing childhood cancer, and locally on education, neighborhoods and making our hometown of Milwaukee a great destination. Visit Northwestern Mutual Foundation to learn more.

## **About Northwestern Mutual**

Northwestern Mutual has been helping people and businesses achieve financial security for more than 165 years. Through a holistic planning approach, Northwestern Mutual combines the expertise of its financial

professionals with a personalized digital experience and industry-leading products to help its clients plan for what's most important. With more than \$560 billion in combined company and client assets, \$34 billion in revenues, and \$2.1 trillion worth of life insurance protection in force, Northwestern Mutual delivers financial security to nearly five million people with life, disability income and long-term care insurance, annuities, and brokerage and advisory services. Northwestern Mutual ranked 97 on the 2022 FORTUNE 500 and was recognized by FORTUNE® as one of the "World's Most Admired" life insurance companies in 2022.

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For further information: Kyra Koepp, 1-800-323-7033, mediarelations@northwesternmutual.com

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