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FLEECE & THANK YOU TO HOST MAKE A BLANKET DAY WALLED LAKE/NOVI ON MARCH 28

Community blanket-making event set to engage multiple school districts and event sponsors to make 1,000+ blankets for hospitalized children

FARMINGTON HILLS, Mich. – Fleece & Thank You (F&TY), Michigan's largest provider of comfort care to hospitalized children, is hosting **Make A Blanket Day (MABD) - Walled Lake/Novi, presented by Kroger**, a community blanket-making event. This event will engage the entire Walled Lake and Novi school districts and takes places from **noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 28**, at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

The community charity event brings together individual and corporate sponsors to support hospitalized children and their families supporting them. Attendees from Walled Lake, Novi, and the surrounding communities will make colorful, no-sew fleece blankets, each with an inspiring video message attached to it from the maker. Patients and their parents access the videos via the F&TY website.

"Our work is all about serving kids in the hospital. This Make A Blanket Day event is an invitation to entire communities to stand side-by-side and provide much needed comfort to kids that are facing hospital treatments. It's going to be an epic event and we are so excited for it," said Nicholas Kristock, founder and executive director of Fleece & Thank You.

F&TY is looking for support from community sponsors to fund 1,000+ blankets for this historic event. Further, the organization is inviting community members to bring their hands and hearts to help make the blankets.

To make this event possible, the F&TY team has partnered with Kroger, the Walled Lake and Novi school districts and the Novi Chamber of Commerce, which have been strong advocates of F&TY over the years.

"This is a chance for the entire Walled Lake/Novi area to come together and make a difference for kids facing hospital stays who really need to feel the love. Doing something charitable always feels good, but to do it on this scale, with these people, it's going to be an unforgettable experience," said Nancy Kattoula, teacher at Walled Lake Central High School.

Make A Blanket Day - Walled Lake/Novi, presented by Kroger, is a family-friendly event and welcomes all ages to attend. F&TY is inviting both community sponsors to financially support blankets for the event, volunteers to sign up to help with the event operations and community members to attend to help make the blankets. There is no cost to attend.

Organizations or individuals interested in participating should call 313-451-3665 or email info@fleeceandthankyou.org.

In addition to the "Make a Blanket Day" community blanket-making event in Novi, the nonprofit's annual events include a golf outing and other Make a Blanket Days in several communities. F&TY partners with The Judson Center, Services to Enhance Potential, Cooke School and Life Skills to provide work opportunities to young adults and adults with disabilities in its warehouse.

About Fleece & Thank You

Established in 2015, Fleece & Thank You is a nonprofit organization that provides comfort and connection through fleece blankets and video messages made by blanket makers. Upon delivery, children send "thank you" video messages back, allowing the donor experience to come full-circle. Blankets and video messages are made at corporate, community and school events. The goal is to make 30,000 blankets annually, to match the number of pediatric admissions to Michigan hospitals. F&TY also offers Blanket Therapy at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital and Royal Oak Beaumont (pilot phase funded by the Applebaum Foundation), where children and families make blankets for future inpatients and sells Flockets, fleece-pocket T-shirts with proceeds funding micro loans to financially support families who have a child receiving cancer treatment. For more information, visit <u>FleeceAndThankYou.org</u>.

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