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Orthwein Foundation Boosts Wings of Hope Endowment with \$1 Million Gift

Senator Elizabeth Dole is honorary campaign chair

ST. LOUIS (Nov. 7, 2019) — The Wings of Hope Soaring to New Heights Endowment Campaign recently received a big boost with a \$1 million gift from the William R. Orthwein, Jr. and Laura Rand Orthwein Foundation, growing the endowment to nearly \$8 million and moving it closer to its \$10 million phase-one goal.

“We are beyond grateful for this important gift and the generosity of the Orthwein family,” said Wings of Hope President and CEO Bret Heinrich. “This is a major gift for Wings of Hope but even more meaningful for the countless families and children whose lives will be forever changed for the better because of it.”

The goal of the endowment campaign is to ensure Wings of Hope has the capital to secure the planes needed, cultivate the next generation of volunteer pilots, and expand the organization’s Medical Relief & Air Transport (MAT) program – allowing it to serve 50% more people with free transportation to health care.

“My family has deep roots in the St. Louis community and we are committed to caring for it. The Foundation made a significant initial investment in Wings of Hope in 2007 and a more significant additional investment in 2010 for the same reason we are investing in their endowment today,” said Foundation President Nettie O. Dodge. “We believe in Wings of Hope and its mission. Our investment in Wings of Hope today will help to ensure that they will be able to provide their excellent services well into the future.”

Senator Elizabeth Dole, honorary chair of the endowment campaign, praised Wings of Hope for supporting patients and caregivers.

“By providing free medical air transportation, they lighten the immense burden families shoulder when caring for loved ones in serious medical crises,” she said. “They replace helplessness with hope and give families the support they need to navigate what can be a long and terrifying road to healing.”

About Wings of Hope

Wings of Hope changes and saves lives through the power of aviation. In the U.S., the nonprofit provides medical air transport services – free of charge – to individuals who need access to specialized medical care. The organization also works with in-country partners around the globe to fly people in remote areas to emergency medical care and fly doctors into communities with

no local health care. Wings of Hope has been twice nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. In 2018, Wings of Hope directly served more than 67,000 people around the world. Visit wingsofhope.ngo or call 636-537-1302.

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