

The WithMerci Foundation Is Spreading Love And Support On Valentines Day To Children With Disabilities

-WithMerci Announces Down Syndrome as the Newest Partnering Disability Initiative-

HOUSTON, TX – **The WithMerci Foundation is pleased to announce down syndrome as the 2019-20 partnering disability. Starting Thursday, February 14, 2019, the application process will be available online at www.withmerci.org to all interested organizations supporting the aforementioned cause.** Currently, WithMerci is working with Easter Seals of Greater Houston, and The Astros Foundation whereas each organization provides advocate services and support to families of children with cerebral palsy. Whitney Mercilus and the WithMerci Foundation presented a total of **\$40,000.00** in donations to its cerebral palsy partners during their annual Dine WithMerci fundraiser. Additionally, the WithMerci Foundation has donated **\$325,000.00** since its inception to support organizations servicing children with special needs.

According to the National Down Syndrome Society, “Down syndrome occurs when an individual has a full or partial extra copy of chromosome 21. Approximately one in every 700 babies in the United States is born with Down syndrome. About 6,000 babies with Down syndrome are born in the United States each year. There are different types of down syndrome Trisomy 21, Mosaicism and Translocation. Trisomy 21 accounts for 95% of down syndrome cases, Mosaicism is the least common form of down syndrome which accounts for only 1% of cases and Translocation which accounts for about 4% of cases of down syndrome.”

“I started the WithMerci Foundation because I have a passion to help families and underprivileged children with disabilities and special needs. I am especially excited about partnering with organizations servicing children with down syndrome because it allows us to operate as change agents, while assisting them in living a life without limits, said Mercilus.

For more information about Whitney Mercilus and the WithMerci Foundation, please visit www.withmerci.org. Also, follow @withmerci on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

ABOUT THE WITHMERCIF FOUNDATION

The vision of the WithMerci Foundation **Start** WithMerci by believing in and advocating for children around the world with disabilities and special needs. **Live** WithMerci through services and support that ensure children with disabilities feel included through all aspects of life. **Work** WithMerci through special sporting events and by providing education to individuals. **Give** WithMerci through financial support.

###