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TEXANS WHITNEY MERCILUS SPREADS HOLIDAY CHEER WITH COOKIES AND GIFTS

-The WithMerci Foundation Partners with The Astros Foundation and Easter Seals for Season of Giving-

HOUSTON, TX - The WithMerci Foundation prides itself on supporting child advocacy programs servicing the special needs population and this holiday season they will spread the Christmas joy to their 2018-19 partners; **The Astros Foundation and Easter Seals Greater Houston. Houston Texans linebacker, Whitney Mercilus, will be at Easter Seals (4888 Loop Central Dr Suite 200, Houston, TX 77081) to enjoy warm cookies from Tiff's Treat and decorate cookie boxes with the children from both organizations on Wednesday, December 19, 2018 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.** Additionally, Mercilus and the WithMerci Foundation will be delivering toys to the children from their annual holiday toy drive. This year Mercilus and the foundation partnered with **The Empire Barber Studio, Gorilla Meat Tailgaters, Stewart Title, Ray's Real Pit BBQ Shack and Festari for Men,** to collect new, unwrapped toys.

"I was raised to believe that it is always a blessing to be a blessing and during the holiday season it is even more evident. You never know how your single act of kindness can impact the outcome of someone's day or even their lives. Working with children is something near and dear to my heart, so any chance I get to make a difference in their lives individually or through the works of my foundation, I embrace every opportunity", said Mercilus.

Each year the WithMerci foundation chooses a disability as its focus. Last year the foundation raised awareness about autism and this year they are shining a light on cerebral palsy. Cerebral palsy is close to the heart of the Astros Foundation since **Jackson Ryan, grandson of Hall of Fame pitcher Nolan Ryan and son of Reid Ryan, president of the Houston Astros** lives with cerebral palsy. Easter Seals, originally called the Cerebral Palsy Treatment Center, provides opportunities for people of all ages with a range of disabilities to achieve their full potential.

The WithMerci Foundation focuses on support and advocacy, and the missions of these organizations are intertwined with the mission and vision of the WithMerci Foundation.

For more information about The WithMerci Foundation, please visit www.withmerci.org. You can connect with the foundation on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter @withmerci.

WithMerci Foundation Vision - 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.

WithMerci Foundation Mission - To provide advocate services and support to families of children with disabilities and special needs.

ABOUT THE WITHMERC FOUNDATION

The WithMerci Foundation provides opportunities and financial support to families of children with disabilities and special needs. This year the foundation efforts are focused on children with cerebral palsy. The WithMerci Foundation recently partnered with the Astros Foundation and Easter Seals of Houston.

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