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Local Non-Profit Horton's Kids to Celebrate Southeast D.C. Youth and Families at Nationals Park at 15th Annual Home Runs at Nationals Park

Annual fundraiser benefits children and families in D.C.'s most under-resourced communities

(Washington, D.C.) – July 12, 2023 – Tonight, elected officials, business leaders, community advocates, and children and their families will join the local charity Horton's Kids at Nationals Park for its 15th Annual Home Runs for Horton's Kids event. The event is a celebration of the 600 children and families served by Horton's Kids programs and supports.

Horton's Kids has remained a trusted partner in the neighborhoods they serve for the last 34 years. The organization actively works to embed community members into all facets of their work. Horton's Kids is proud to have seven community members currently serving on their board and staff. The impact of Horton's Kids' holistic, multi-generational approach is dramatic: Horton's Kids participants are twice as likely to graduate from high school compared to peers in the neighborhoods.

"The children and families we work with in Southeast, D.C. have done amazing things," said Erica Ahdoot, Executive Director of Horton's Kids. "This event helps us guarantee that they have the resources and support necessary to follow their dreams. When the city supports us at Home Runs, we are able to make sure that they have every opportunity to take their lives in the directions they want."

Funds raised from the event will allow Horton's Kids to continue to help children and families in Southeast, Washington, D.C., through their comprehensive academic, youth development, family engagement, and health and wellness programs. Since it was launched 15 years ago, Home Runs for Horton's Kids has become Horton's Kids' largest fundraising event and has raised over \$6M for children and families in Southeast DC.

In the last year alone, Horton's Kids has supplied 407 winter clothing items, 8,819 meals, and 28,650 diapers in Southeast D.C. In February 2023, they opened a new headquarters, Horton's Hub, which is located in a former community church and provides 19,000 square feet of mixed indoor and outdoor space, including a recording studio to allow participants to create their own music and podcasts. The new facility has also allowed Horton's Kids to expand existing services and offer new ones, including mental health services.

This year's attendees at Home Runs for Horton's Kids will enjoy a family-friendly evening of exclusive access to Nationals Park. Guests can pitch in the bullpen, test their batting skills in the batting cages, hang out with Nationals' mascot Screech, race President Teddy around the bases, and more.

Home Runs for Horton's Kids is chaired by Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT), Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE), Rep. James E. Clyburn (D-SC), Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), Rep. James Comer (R-KY), and Rep. Patrick McHenry (R-NC), and Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) alongside corporate co-chairs

Guiseppe Carfangno (Regional Vice President, Enterprise Holdings Institute), Adam Gluck (Head, U.S. and Specialty Care Corporate Affairs, Sanofi), Neesa Patel (Sood, Partner, Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP), and Omar Vargas (Vice President, Head of Global Public Policy, General Motors).

Other sponsors of Home Runs for Horton's Kids include The Hill, Willkie Farr & Gallagher, LLP, Enterprise Holdings Foundation, GM, and Sanofi.

About Horton's Kids:

Founded in 1989, Horton's Kids was built on the idea that dedicated service can change lives. We began as an all-volunteer operation, established by Former Capitol Hill staffer Karin Walser. Over the years, our efforts have shifted to working in tandem with families in Southeast DC, to co-create programs that remove barriers to success, and help every member of the family thrive.

Community agency and success are core to our work. As a trusted community partner, Horton's Kids has operated Community Resource Centers just steps away from the families we serve for over a decade. In 2023, we opened our third location and new headquarters Horton's Kids Community Resource Hub (Horton's Hub) to reaffirm our commitment to the communities we serve and deepen our investment in Southeast DC.

The critical need for Horton's Kids programs is demonstrated by the organization's continued impact. In 2022:

- 100% of enrolled high school seniors graduated on time for the sixth year in a row*
- 100% of regularly attending K-5 participants who were assessed maintained or grew their reading level*
- 100% of families who requested therapy services were linked with providers*
- 162 hours of high-intensity tutoring provided*
- 90% of participants assessed were average or above average in their social-emotional skills.*
- 8,819 meals and 1,120lbs of fresh produce distributed*
- 407 winter clothing items distributed*
- 28,650 diapers distributed*
- 7 community members on the Horton's Kids board and staff*

For non-media inquiries, please visit www.hortonskids.org or contact brad@hortonskids.org.

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