



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kayla's Playground Celebrates One Year

Thrivent Mutual Funds donates \$10,000 for playground enhancements

FRANKLIN, Wis. – (Nov. 15, 2016) – Kayla's Playground, an all-accessible, all-inclusive playground located in the Franklin Woods Nature Park recently celebrated its first anniversary. Inspired by the life of Kayla Runte, an exceptional little girl who battled cerebral palsy, the playground was built to provide a place for families of all abilities to spend time together.

The 12,000 square-foot playground is currently undergoing enhancements to its facility that already include two Expression Swings, providing parents and children the opportunity to interact with one another while swinging together, along with a fully accessible Liberty Swing, which allows children in wheelchairs to experience the joy of swinging.

In honor of Kayla Runte and Kayla's Krew, Thrivent Mutual Funds recently donated \$10,000 to the City of Franklin for maintenance and enhancements to Kayla's Playground.

"Our mission was to build a community playground which was not only fully wheelchair accessible, but also offered the most up-to-date and inclusive play equipment for all abilities and ages to experience life lessons of compassion, patience and acceptance. Because of the smooth playground surface, it is not only accessible for wheelchairs, but also for strollers so families can stay together and play, said Shelly Runte, Kayla's mom who is the Founder and Executive Director of Kayla's Krew, "Thrivent Mutual Funds has been remarkably supportive throughout the process of building Kayla's Playground. We would not have been able to fulfill our mission without the generous help from many individuals in our community, the City of Franklin, surrounding communities and private businesses like Thrivent Mutual Funds."

"Kayla's Krew exemplifies one of the core principles we have at Thrivent Mutual Funds, which is to make a positive impact in the community," said David Royal, president, Thrivent Mutual Funds. "They have done amazing work to enable all children who have special needs to forget about any of the challenges they are presented with and teach others the value of friendship and compassion."

For more information about Thrivent Mutual Funds, please visit www.ThriventFunds.com.

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