American Airlines Newsroom

NEWS RELEASE

Helping make wishes come true with Give Kids The World

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Since opening in 1986, Give Kids The World has worked with organizations like the Make-A-Wish Foundation to welcome more than 176,000 critically ill children and their families for a magical weeklong vacation at Walt Disney World.

The organization operates the Give Kids The World Village, a themed resort that provides accommodations, meals, entertainment and tickets to Orlando's theme parks at no cost to visiting families. As a long-time partner, American Airlines and its team members have volunteered countless hours to support guests, construct villas, host sendoff celebrations and care for Make-A-Wish families throughout their journeys.

Unfortunately, the Give Kids The World Village was forced to close in March as a result of the coronavirus pandemic — delaying the wishes of more than 4,000 children.

Then, through heartbreak, came opportunity. Give Kids The World, with the support of nearly 50 community partners, transformed the shuttered 89-acre resort into an immersive winter wonderland.

Among the countless volunteers that worked to decorate The Village for Night of a Million Lights was Nathan Green, a Dallas Fort Worth International Airport-based Boeing 787 pilot and first-time volunteer with Give Kids the World. Making a special trip to Orlando, Florida (MCO), Nathan spent an entire day installing American Airlines inflatable decorations and holiday lights on one of the villas along Tree Trail.

"I walked away amazed by The Village's size, global impact and whimsical feel," said Nathan. "I'm proud of American's long-standing partnership with Give Kids The World and feel honored to have helped bring a smile to a

child battling a life-threatening illness.”

Night of a Million Lights is open nightly to the public through Jan. 3, 2021, and includes special displays illuminated with more than 3 million holiday lights, unlimited access to The Village’s wheelchair-accessible rides and attractions, complementary ice cream and hot chocolate and one-of-a-kind performances. Proceeds from the event will be used to ensure the wishes of critically ill children can be fulfilled when they reopen next year.

Learn more and purchase tickets for Night of a Million Lights **online**. In this season of giving, AAdvantage® members can also provide support to organizations like Give Kids the World and the Make-A-Wish Foundation by donating to Miles for Global Health and Well-Being.

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