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\$4,170 Raised by Heard County Fire Fighters During 2019 Fill the Boot Campaign to Give Strength to MDA

Franklin, GA, September 4, 2019 — During the 2019 MDA Fill the Boot campaign, the dedicated members of the Heard County Fire & Emergency Services took to the streets and continued a 65-year tradition of giving strength to the MDA community.

“The fire fighters of Heard County Fire & Emergency Services have once again gone above and beyond for MDA’s families during this year’s Fill the Boot campaign,” said Bridgett Monroe, Executive Director. “We are so grateful for their dedication and for the generosity of those in the Heard County community who have helped to raise critical funds to help transform the lives of kids and adults with muscular dystrophy, ALS and related muscle-debilitating diseases.

Funds raised through Heard County Fire & Emergency Services Fill the Boot event help MDA save lives and lift those up in need, by providing the MDA with vital resources to advance their mission of driving innovations in science and care for the neuromuscular community. Contributions have helped fund groundbreaking research and life-enhancing programs such as state-of-the-art support groups and Care Centers, including the MDA Care Center at **Emory University and Scottish Rite Children’s Healthcare in Atlanta**. They also help send more than 100 local kids to “the best week of the year” at MDA summer camp at Camp Twin Lakes in Rutledge, GA – all at no cost to their families. Today the Fire fighters and MDA partnership is finding new ways to save lives by working to expand newborn screenings in the U.S. with Pompe disease or Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), so that they can be immediately eligible for lifesaving and life changing therapies.

About MDA

MDA is committed to transforming the lives of people affected by muscular dystrophy, ALS and related neuromuscular diseases. We do this through innovations in science and innovations in care. As the largest source of funding for neuromuscular disease research outside of the federal government, MDA has committed more than \$1 billion since our inception to accelerate the discovery of therapies and cures. Research

we have supported is directly linked to approved, life-changing therapies across multiple neuromuscular diseases. We support the largest network of multidisciplinary clinics providing best-in-class care at more than 150 of the nation's top medical institutions, and each year thousands of children and young adults learn vital life skills and gain independence at MDA Summer Camp and through recreational programs. For more information visit mda.org.

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