Murrieta, CA

Merchant Services Helps Young Girl's Love of Reading and Passion for Animals Evolve into a Special Wish

Lainey is described as a "girly girl" who loves to play with dolls and run around with her older brothers. An enthusiastic young lady with an optimistic heart, Lainey is an avid reader and has been inspired by her favorite American Girl Doll characters who ride horses during their adventures. With the help of Merchant Services and the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Orange County/Inland Empire, Lainey's wish to have horseback riding lessons so she could ride like the heroines in the American Girl stories came true.

On her wish day, Lainey received a certificate for a year of horseback riding lessons and a gift card to a western apparel store where a personal shopper helped her choose her horseback riding gear. She chose many fun items, but her favorite purchase was a pair of bright pink cowboy boots, which she wears all the time.

Since beginning her weekly lessons, Lainey's love for horses has grown and has given her something special to look forward to every week. Lainey's parents are so impressed by her passion for horses that they believe she will make an excellent competitive horseback rider or veterinarian one day. All these dreams for her future were made possible thanks to the power of a wish.

Merchant Services is pleased to support the wishes of children like Lainey. Account Executive Alicyn Roy, who has been a driving force behind Merchant Services' involvement with the Make-A-Wish Foundation®, noted that "It's truly been an honor to be involved with this program. As a horseback rider myself I know first-hand the healing effect animals have. I'm happy we were able to share that gift."

Nathan Jurczyk, Vice President of Merchant Services, added "It is wishes like this that really remind you what a difference a small contribution can make. Make-A-Wish has shared that Lainey's weekly riding lessons have helped her stay focused

and motivated to be compliant with her medication, nutrition, and other important medical treatments. This is a wish that truly may help a little girl overcome her illness."

About Merchant Services

Founded in 1995, Merchant Services is a leading provider of e-commerce solutions to businesses throughout the United States. Recognized in 2009 by Inc. Magazine as one of *The 5000 Fastest Growing Privately-Held Companies in the U.S.*, Merchant Services provides sound, reliable and cost-effective bankcard and e-commerce support to tens of thousands of business partners nationwide.

About the Make-A-Wish Foundation®

Since 1980, the Make-A-Wish Foundation® has enriched the lives of children with life-threatening medical conditions through its wish-granting work. Since its beginning, the organization has reached more than 174,000 children around the world. The Foundation's mission reflects the life-changing impact that a Make-A-Wish® experience has on children, families, and entire communities. To learn more about the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Orange County and the Inland Empire please visit www.wishocie.org.