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## **Jewelers for Children Grant Wish for Local Boy Battling Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia**

(COLUMBUS, OH) – Four-year-old Javion, who is battling Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, a life-threatening type of blood cancer, was granted his wish of an ultimate shopping spree to his most favorite stores: Toys R’ Us, Walmart, Burlington Coat Factory and Holcomb’s, recently thanks to the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Greater Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana, Central Ohio Region and its national partnership with Jewelers for Children.

“Jewelers for Children and its members have made it possible for us to bring hope, strength and joy to wish kids like Javion,” said Tim McCarthy, executive director of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Greater Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana, Central Ohio Region. “Their financial support during the past 10 years has made a significant difference in the lives of the courageous kids we serve.”

Javion loves watching Happy Feet, cheering for the Cleveland Cavaliers and shopping at Toys R’ Us. Living with leukemia often makes Javion feel tired and weak and unable to participate in activities with family and friends. When volunteers from the Make-A-Wish Foundation met with Javion to discuss his wish, he knew a shopping spree to his favorite stores would be a great opportunity to forget about the hospital stays and painful procedures and experience a little joy.

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Javion and his mother were escorted by limousine from their home to the first stop on his shopping spree list, Toys R' Us! From there, they went shopping at Burlington Coat Factory, Holcomb's and Walmart. After a long day of shopping, they were both treated to dinner at Javion's favorite restaurant, Red Lobster, and then taken home by limo to round out a wonderful day.

"We are grateful for our national partners in the Jewelers for Children program and to Toys R' Us, Burlington Coat Factory, Holcombs, Walmart and Red Lobster for making Javion's wish a memory that will last a lifetime," remarked McCarthy. "Thanks to the Jewelers for Children program, Javion was able to pick out his favorite games, toys and accessories!"

"This was the best time of Javion's life", commented Vicki, Javion's mom. "All of Javion's new toys are things I could never have given him with the burden of all of the medical expenses we are facing as a family."

#### ***About Jewelers for Children***

Jewelers for Children (JFC) was created by the jewelry and diamond industry with the mission of raising funds for charities that primarily benefit children. Competing companies involving retailers, manufacturers, watch companies, trade associations and those who provide professional services to the industry unite on behalf of children in need. Since 1999, JFC has helped the Make-A-Wish Foundation grant more than 1,100 wishes through the *Wish A State* program founded in cooperation with JFC and Jewelers of America.

#### ***About the Make-A-Wish Foundation***

The Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Greater Ohio, Kentucky & Indiana is ***celebrating 25 years of inspiring lives, one wish at a time.*** Since the first wish was granted in 1984, this chapter has granted more than 7,400 magical wishes. This milestone year, the chapter will work to fulfill the wishes of a record-breaking 800 local children. There are so many ways that you can help create joyful moments for local wish children. Find out how at [www.makeawishohio.org](http://www.makeawishohio.org).