



NEWS RELEASE

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**CORPORATE ANGEL NETWORK RECOGNIZES THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY
OF ITS INAUGURAL FLIGHT**

White Plains, NY (December 1, 2016) –. The idea was simple. Pat Blum, a pilot and recovered cancer patient, noticed the large number of corporate aircraft landing at Westchester County Airport in White Plains, New York with one or two passengers disembarking. She thought that these planes could be invaluable in helping get cancer patients to the treatment centers in New York and across the country. According to press interviews Ms. Blum gave at the time, she and Jay Weinberg, also a cancer survivor, discussed the concept with Leonard Greene, president of Safe Flight Instrument Corporation and a friend of theirs. “His reaction was an enthusiastic thumbs up: ‘Go for it!’ And so the Corporate Angel Network was born.”

On December 22, 1981, Safe Flight hosted the first flight between White Plains and Detroit, Michigan. The patient was a twenty-two year old student who was seeing a specialist at Memorial Sloan-Kettering for his bone cancer. The hospital discharged him in time to be home for Christmas. As snowflakes flurried at his arrival in Detroit, his family and friends waited on the tarmac with holiday music to greet him.

When diagnosed with cancer, a family's life is changed forever. Treatment options are just part of the critical decisions that must be made. Many of those decisions center on how to get to locations where they can access the best treatment for their specific disease. A cancer patient's immune system is often not equipped to fight off infection, and, exposure to colds could seriously jeopardize his or her life. For many cancer patients and their families traveling for medical reasons becomes a major financial burden. With the help of Corporate Angel Network, travel can become much less stressful.

Corporate Angel Network's recently completed its 51,000th cancer patient flight. Its success over the years is possible because of the dedication and efforts of many volunteers and the participation of the over 500 major U.S. corporations who share their "empty seats" with patients. Corporate Angel Network is a public charity whose sole mission is to arrange free flights on corporate business jets for cancer patients of all ages to treatment.

Corporate Angel Network is a public charity that arranges free flights for cancer patients to treatment using empty seats on business aircraft. The organization has received numerous awards in recognition of its service to cancer patients, including The Volunteer Action Award, the highest volunteer award from the President of the United States. For more information, call (914) 328-1313 or visit www.corpangelnetwork.org,

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