

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CarePortal partners with Angel Armies and Liberty University to keep children out of foster care system

Kansas City, Mo. — CarePortal, an online connecting platform and growing national initiative of The Global Orphan Project, is partnering with Angel Armies, the non-profit formed by Grammy winner Chris Tomlin, and Liberty University Football to identify and support local children and families in crisis in the United States.

There are currently more than 440,000 children in foster care, according to the 2017 U.S. Administration for Children and Families Report on Child Maltreatment. More children come into foster care each year than exit. The most surefire way to keep children out of the foster care system is to support the family in crisis. Angel Armies facilitates this by activating its partners who have boots on the ground in local communities around the country. Family support can be manifested in many ways: physical, relational or familial.

Liberty University Football has formed their own Angel Army to help keep at-risk children in healthy, safe, loving homes and out of the foster care system. The team will respond to needs of children and families across the country using CarePortal, an online platform that connects the needs of at-risk families entered by Child Welfare workers to nearby churches and communities who have signed up to help. It is the sharing economy for kids and family: those with capacity helping those with needs, real-time.

Adrien Lewis, Executive Director of The Global Orphan Project, is thrilled about the unique partnership and use of the platform. "I'm so excited for us all to join forces. Especially to see motivated, Christ-following student athletes want to get involved to make a difference in children's lives. Not only will kids' lives be changed, the football players and coaches' lives will be changed as well," said Adrien Lewis.

Here's how the partnership works: Liberty Football has formed 10 huddles that include players, position coaches and coaches' wives to cull through a list of real-time needs as identified by Child Welfare Workers and loaded into CarePortal. Each huddle will discuss, pray and ultimately agree on which needs they choose to meet. There are local church CareCenters throughout the U.S. to act as the feet-on-the-street to fulfill specific requests as designated by the LU football huddles. Once met, the team/huddles are notified of their impact. With leadership from Head Coach Hugh Freeze and his wife, Jill Freeze, the team aims to serve as many as 1,000 children during the 2019 season.

Since 2015, CarePortal has served more than 45,000 children across 20 states and generated more than \$16mm in economic impact. The innovation comes with the activation of an existing community response network and local governmental social programs. Anyone interested in joining CarePortal in serving atrisk children can enroll at careportal.org.

CarePortal is a platform launched in March 2015 by The Global Orphan Project, headquartered in Kansas City, Mo. CarePortal brings faith and government entities together by utilizing a volunteer network and innovative technology to bring the needs of children and families in crisis to the attention of local churches. Child welfare workers uncover the needs. CarePortal makes local churches aware, giving them a real-time opportunity to respond. See CarePortal's live impact report at careportal.org/impact.

Watch the trailer to learn more about this unique partnership.

Angel Armies is a non-profit created by singer, songwriter and Grammy award-winner, Chris Tomlin, to give a voice to the foster care and orphan crisis in the United States through equipping the source of the solution, the Church, with the tools and support needed to solve this issue once and for all. For more information visit <u>angelarmies.com</u>.

Liberty Flames football, led by Coach Hugh Freeze, is on a mission: reverse the foster care crisis in our nation, and develop championship character within their team in the process. For more information visit liberty.edu/flames.

CarePortal is a connecting platform initiative of The Global Orphan Project, a 501c3 non-profit, that brings the needs of hurting children and families in your community to your attention. Caseworkers uncover the needs. CarePortal makes local churches aware, giving them a real-time opportunity to respond. See more at <u>careportal.org</u>.

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