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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hudson Gateway REALTOR® Foundation Presents \$1,000 Donation to Friends of Karen, Serving Families of Children with Life-threatening Illness in the New York Metro Area

White Plains, NY (November 2020) The Hudson Gateway REALTOR® Foundation, the charitable arm of the Hudson Gateway Association of REALTORS®, recently presented a check for \$1,000 to Friends of Karen in **North Salem**. The organization serves families throughout the greater New York metro area.

Founded in 1978, Friends of Karen was named for Karen MacInnes, 16, who was terminally ill with Lafora disease, a rare genetic disorder. She had been in a New York City hospital for almost a year, and her parents were traveling 110 miles daily between their Purdys, NY home and the hospital to be with her. Karen wanted to spend her remaining time at home surrounded by those she loved.

Sheila Petersen, a family friend, appealed to the community and friends and neighbors gave generously to help pay the mounting bills for Karen's care. Following Karen's passing, Petersen continued her efforts to help other families of children with life-threatening illnesses. Today, more than 40 years later, the organization helps hundreds of ill children and their families every month, by providing a blend of emotional and financial support at no cost to them.

“The grant from the Hudson Gateway Realtor Foundation comes at a time when so many of our families are reeling from the impact of their child's cancer diagnosis, compounded by COVID-19. These funds will help us cover basic costs like food and rent for families who are struggling with

enormous illness-related expenses at a time when they have had to leave a job to be bed side with their ill child,” explained Judith Factor, Friends of Karen’s Executive Director.

Since 2014, the Hudson Gateway Realtor Foundation has donated thousands of dollars to charities and non-profits throughout the Hudson Valley. As concerned members of the communities we work in, the Hudson Gateway REALTOR® Foundation participates in qualified community-based charities who serve the housing, hunger, health, happiness, and humane needs of citizens everywhere.

For more information or to apply for funding from the Hudson Gateway REALTOR® Foundation, please visit www.hgrealtorfoundation.com.

The Hudson Gateway Association of REALTORS® is a not-for-profit trade association representing over 13,000 real estate professionals doing business in Westchester, Putnam, Rockland, and Orange counties, as well as the Bronx and Manhattan. It is the second largest REALTOR® Association in New York, and one of the largest in the country.

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