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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Joe Andruzzi Foundation Receives \$50K Donation from Goal Line Giving Partnership with Empower Retirement

Funds from the partnership will allow the Foundation to offer financial assistance to over 70 families of cancer patients throughout New England

North Attleboro, MA (January 10, 2017) — The Joe Andruzzi Foundation (JAF) and Empower Retirement are excited to announce that the first year of Goal Line Giving, a new charitable partnership aimed at providing financial assistance to cancer patients and their families, raised an impressive \$44,100 over the past four months. To further the campaign's impact, Empower Retirement will round-up and donate an additional \$5,900 to the Foundation, bringing its total Goal Line Giving contributions to \$50,000.

Throughout the football regular season – which kicked-off on September 11, 2016 – Empower pledged to donate \$100 towards JAF's Financial Assistance Program for every point New England scored. After a successful season of numerous touchdowns, field goals and safeties, New England scored a total of 441 points – equaling a donation of \$44,100. Including Empower's additional contribution, the \$50,000 raised will allow JAF to offer assistance to over 70 families battling cancer.

JAF's Financial Assistance Program provides one-time grants to cancer patients and their families in active treatment, allowing them to focus on what is most important: recovery. Specifically, the program is designed to assist patients with basic living expenses, such as mortgage, rent, and utility bills. JAF aims to serve as many patients as possible, by continually growing its ability to give to meet the needs of families.

"We are extremely humbled by the generosity of Empower Retirement and grateful that for the past 17 weeks, they have joined us in supporting our mission," said Joe Andruzzi, Foundation President. "Unfortunately, there are constantly more and more families that experience the heartache and stress that comes with a cancer diagnosis, but thanks to Empower Retirement, we can reach out to more of those families and hopefully relieve some of that stress so they can focus on recovery, not bills."

"We're proud to support the Joe Andruzzi Foundation's mission in support of families who need help during difficult times," said Stephen Jenks, Chief Marketing Officer for Empower Retirement. "New England has certainly made this a thrilling football season and it's been great to turn the team's success into a winning opportunity for these families."

The Goal Line Giving partnership also allowed JAF and Empower to work together to raise awareness for the Foundation's mission in an effort to drive donations and greater visibility for the needs of families coping with cancer.

Empower, the nation's second-largest retirement services provider, is a [sponsor](#) of the New England Patriots.

Photo Credit: *Stacey Howard Photography*

About the Joe Andruzzi Foundation

The Joe Andruzzi Foundation, founded in 2008, is committed to providing help, hope, and a reason to smile for cancer patients and their families by contributing financial and emotional support when it is needed most, as well as funding pediatric brain cancer research. Joe Andruzzi, a former three-time Super Bowl winning offensive guard with the New England Patriots, was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's Burkitt's lymphoma in 2007 and was treated at Boston's Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Brigham and Women's Hospital. Disease-free less than a year later, Joe dedicated his life to supporting other cancer patients and funding life-saving research. The Joe Andruzzi Foundation is Joe and his wife Jen's second philanthropic effort; in 2003, they started the C.J. Buckley Brain Cancer Research Fund at Boston Children's Hospital in memory of C.J. Buckley, a young man with an inoperable brain tumor who touched their hearts before losing his battle in 2002. The fund supports much-needed, innovative research into the molecular nature of pediatric brain tumors, novel treatment therapies and alternatives to multiple surgeries. For more information, or to make a donation, please visit joeandruzzifoundation.org, or visit our [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages.

About Empower Retirement

Headquartered in metro Denver, Empower Retirement administers \$430 billion in assets for more than 8 million participants. It is the nation's second-largest retirement plan record keeper by total participants (*Pensions & Investments*, April, 2016). Empower serves all segments of the employer-sponsored retirement plan market: government 457 plans, small, midsize, and large corporate 401(k) clients, non-profit 403(b) entities and private-label recordkeeping clients. For more information, please visit www.Empower-retirement.com.

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