



## Press Release

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Rockland Community Foundation Fundholder Nominated for Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award *Chromebooks for Kids Chosen as Nonprofit Recipient***

**January 5, 2021 ROCKLAND COUNTY, NY-** NFL Star, Devin McCourty has been nominated to receive the Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award! He has chosen Chromebooks for Kids, the RCF fund he started with his brother Jason, to be the recipient of the award. The Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award recognizes an NFL player for his excellence on and off the field. The award was established in 1970 and was renamed in 1999 after the late Hall of Fame Chicago Bears running back, Walter Payton. Each team nominates one player who has had a significant positive impact on his community. This fund has already granted over 400 Chromebooks to students in the East Ramapo and Nyack School Districts. His nomination means a donation of \$40,000 to the fund. If Devin wins, Chromebooks for kids will receive an additional donation of \$250,000.

The fund was originally established last spring by the McCourty Twins (who currently play for the New England Patriots), when it became apparent that the technology needed for remote learning was challenging for many students and their families. This issue hit home for Devin & Jason as they grew up in Rockland County, going to school in both districts. First, attending Upper Nyack Elementary School in Nyack and then later, Chestnut Ridge Middle School in East Ramapo. "In the tough times that we're in I believe supporting the students in Rockland will provide hope to the community and give the students a chance to be great," said Devin. "It's awesome to be able to support an area that helped make me who I am today." "What better way to give back than to help provide for the future, our youth", added Jason. "My brother always said make sure blessings don't stop with yourself, but that they flow through you. We believe this is an opportunity for us to use what we've been blessed with to help others!"

#### **The Nationwide Charity Challenge**

From now through January 17th, Rockland County residents can be part of a separate vote on Twitter by using #WPMOYChallengeMcCourty on their feeds. The NFL player with the most unique hashtags will receive an additional \$25,000 for their fund. Second & third place finishers will receive \$1k0 and \$5k donations, courtesy of Nationwide.

"We are so excited that Devin McCourty has selected this fund as his charity of choice, especially since he is involved in many philanthropic endeavors" said Julie Sadowski, Executive Director of the Rockland Community Foundation. "I hope that the community will get behind the Nationwide Challenge so that the fund can receive even more support. The more dollars that come in, the more Chromebooks will go out to students in East Ramapo & Nyack" she continued.

The winner of the Nationwide Charity Challenge will be announced on Monday January 18<sup>th</sup>. The winner of the Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award will be announced Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, the night before the Superbowl.

**About the Rockland Community Foundation:** The Rockland Community Foundation works to improve the quality of life in our region by increasing charitable giving. Its mission is to connect people and businesses with the causes that matter most to them through the creation of funds, across a wide range of interests, that donors create and the Foundation stewards.

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