



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wishes Take Flight at McAllen International Airport ***Airport Partners with Make A Wish Rio Grande Valley to Celebrate Three Brave Children and Their Families***

McAllen International Airport (MFE) and Make-A-Wish® Rio Grande Valley partnered to fulfill wish vacations for three children facing critical illnesses and health challenges during a special sendoff on Thursday, February 26, 2026.

Wish Day at MFE welcomed Make-A-Wish® children and their families with cookies, a face-painting station, and special goodie bags before their nonstop flight to Orlando, Florida.

“Today, we are deeply grateful to McAllen International Airport and our generous sponsors - Lone Star National Bank and East Ocean- for helping create a moment these families will never forget,” said Rebecca Gearhart, chief executive officer for Make-A-Wish Rio Grande Valley.” A wish is more than a fleeting moment — wishes restore hope, bring joy during a difficult journey, and reminds families they are not alone.”

Beginning their wish journeys today are 7-year-old Richard, traveling with his family of five; 5-year-old Elena, traveling with her family of five; and 7-year-old Anahi, traveling with her family of three.

“Today is a reminder of the fundamental reason of doing what we do. Our airport is more than a place for departures and arrivals, it’s where meaningful journeys begin,” said Jeremy Santoscoy, P.E., Director of Aviation for the City of McAllen. “McAllen International Airport is proud to support and deeply appreciates organizations like Make-A-Wish® Rio Grande Valley and the impact they have on families in our community.”

About McAllen International Airport – where convenience takes flight. With trusted airline partners including American Airlines, United Airlines, Allegiant Air, and Delta Air Lines, travelers enjoy nonstop service to Dallas, Houston, Orlando, Las Vegas, Austin, and Phoenix, connecting the Rio Grande Valley to major business and leisure destinations with ease. For flight information, travel updates, and airport news, visit www.mcallenairport.com and follow @McAllenAirport on social media.