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# WeTransfer and Headspace partner to forgive medical debt for low-income Los Angeles residents

Global brands align with community and technology leaders to encourage businesses to have a positive impact on local communities



LOS ANGELES—JULY 18, 2019—[WeTransfer](#), the company that supports creativity with tools to move ideas, and [Headspace](#), a global mindfulness brand whose aim is to improve the health and happiness of the world, today announced they have partnered to forgive nearly \$30 million of medical debt for those facing financial hardship in the city of Los Angeles. WeTransfer and Headspace are working together with [RIP Medical Debt](#), a non-profit organization that locates, buys and forgives medical debt for pennies on the dollar on behalf of individuals, foundations and corporations to clear medical debt for those in need. Additional donors include ZEFR and The Chernin Group, along with local Los Angeles based philanthropists and community leaders. This is the largest local campaign in the non-profit's history.

In early 2019, WeTransfer released "[On Companies and Communities](#)," an in-depth guideline on how growing tech companies can better engage with and support their new communities. Given that 60 percent of U.S. personal bankruptcies are due to medical debt, and consequently a leading source for homelessness, WeTransfer and Headspace saw an opportunity to make an impact locally and began meeting with potential like-minded partners.

*"We chose to tackle medical debt because it's an impactful way to make a real difference for residents who are struggling to pay their bills and make a dent in larger issues that medical debt can lead to like homelessness,"* Damian Bradfield, President and CMO of WeTransfer, said. *"We are thrilled to have partnered with Headspace, an incredible company whose values to help the world with their health and happiness aligns perfectly with this initiative."*

*"We are excited to partner on an initiative that directly impacts the health and happiness of our community,"* said Rich Pierson, CEO of Headspace. *"Two-thirds of Americans say that the cost of healthcare is a major stressor in their lives, and we're honored to help relieve some of this mental stress on a large scale and hope that we can do more in the future."*

*"A medical emergency can be a matter of life and death, yet it is too often a path to financial loss and endless debt for American families,"* said Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti. *"No one should fall on hard times because of a health crisis – and the partners in this effort are showing how alliances between the public, private, and non-profit sectors can help us reduce medical bankruptcies and ensure more financial stability for people who need help."*

RIP Medical Debt is able to purchase bundled medical debt; \$1 donated relieves \$100 of medical debt. Please visit [www.ripmedicaldebt.org](http://www.ripmedicaldebt.org) to learn more about this program and start a campaign in your community.

## About Headspace

[Headspace](#) was created with one mission in mind: to improve the health and happiness of the world. To help us achieve our mission, we aim to inspire, guide and support our members every step of their meditation and mindfulness journey, reaching over 50 million users in 190 countries. Headspace is one of the leading players in the meditation category committed to advancing the field of mindfulness meditation through clinically-validated research. The company also operates a B2B business to offer its meditation products and services to more than 350 companies, such as Google and LinkedIn, to help them build healthier, more productive cultures and higher-performing organizations. Headspace's partnerships team has forged robust relationships with many of the world's most recognizable brands, including Apple, Amazon, Google, Nike, NBA and more. In 2018, Headspace was featured as part of Apple's #Bestof2018: trends of the year on the AppStore. Headspace was also named one of Amazon Alexa's best health and wellness skills of 2018. Headspace was also selected for five Webby Awards in the health and fitness categories between 2018 and 2019. For more information please visit us at [www.headspace.com](http://www.headspace.com), or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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### ABOUT WETRANSFER

WeTransfer makes tools to move ideas. Founded in 2009 in Amsterdam as a simple, well-designed file sharing service for the creative community, WeTransfer has grown to include tools that scale across the creative spectrum, including editorial platform WePresent (with 2M monthly readers), mobile app 'Collect by WeTransfer' (with 4M monthly users), quick slide-making tool Paste™ (with 40,000 active teams), immersive sketching tool Paper® (with more than 25M downloads), and the original web platform with 50M monthly users and over a billion files sent each month.

From the beginning, WeTransfer has prioritized bringing “offline” values - trust, transparency, and ethics - online. This means having a responsible data policy and tools that don't distract people from their creative flow. WeTransfer has pioneered a new means of online advertising, resulting in the platform's full-page wallpapers, designed by our award-winning in-house creative studio. Advertisers include industry-leading brands like Apple, Saint Laurent, Google, Balenciaga, Samsung, Netflix, Adidas, and Squarespace.

Since its founding, WeTransfer has proudly supported the creative communities and given up to 30% of advertising space to support the arts, donating over 5 billion impressions in 2017. Through our ongoing advertising grant program and content platform, WePresent, we have partnered with hundreds of groundbreaking artists and organizations, including Björk, King Krule, FKA twigs, Ryan McGinley, Ami Vitale, the Nelson Mandela Foundation, the UN Development Program, the World Wildlife Foundation and the Prince Estate. In 2016,

WeTransfer launched the world's first free Masters of the Arts in design thinking with the University of the Underground and Worldwide FM, the global radio station run by legendary BBC DJ Gilles Peterson.

Following a \$25 million investment from Highland Europe in 2015, WeTransfer opened a US office in Venice Beach, Los Angeles, to add to the Amsterdam headquarters. In 2018, WeTransfer acquired popular creative apps Paper® and Paste™ and expanded its US presence to Seattle and New York City.

