give back a smile™

A National Domestic Violence Program
of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry
and AACD Charitable Foundation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Aparna Sadineni, DDS
420B Metro Place South
Dublin, OH 43017
Phone: 614.766.5600
E-mail: pr@aacd.com
Website: www.aacd.com

Local American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry (AACD) Dentist, Aparna Sadineni, DDS, Volunteers in Give Back A Smile™ Program for Domestic Violence Survivors

October 29, 2008 Madison, WI – Local American AACD member cosmetic dentist, ***Aparna Sadineni, DDS,*** volunteers for the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry Charitable Foundation's (AACDCF) *Give Back A Smile* (GBAS) program to heal the effects of domestic violence by providing free consultation and dental treatment to restore the smiles of survivors of domestic violence.

"Through the *Give Back A Smile* program, AACD members assist survivors by treating their dental injuries that were sustained from domestic violence, so that they may reclaim their smiles, their self-esteem and, ultimately, their lives," said **Dr. Sadineni** of **Dublin, OH.**

How Give Back A Smile Works

- Domestic violence survivors who have suffered dental injuries from abuse from a former intimate partner or spouse can contact GBAS toll-free at **800.773.GBAS (4227)**.
- Survivors must make an appointment with a counselor, domestic violence advocate, social worker, or therapist to complete the advocate section of the GBAS application.
- GBAS conducts the initial review of the application, however, the dentist has the final say as to the eligibility of the applicant.
- If eligible, the AACD connects the survivor with a local GBAS volunteer who provides treatment at no charge to the recipient.

Helping the Community by Helping Individuals

"Because more than 5 million people are affected by domestic violence every year in the United States and Canada, there is clearly a need for a program like *GBAS* to help survivors rejuvenate their lives through the caring hands of a local dentist," **Dr. Sadineni** said.

In July 2001, the AACD was one of only eight organizations in the world to receive the Award of Excellence and the prestigious Associations Advance America Summit Award for its GBAS program. The American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), of Washington, D.C., sponsors this yearly national competition to recognize the charitable organizations that make the most effort to advance American society.

For complete details about the *GBAS* program, visit *www.givebackasmile.com* or call toll-free 800.543.9220. Those interested in finding help with the *GBAS* program can also visit the Web site *www.givebackasmile.com*, call the National Hotline at 800.773.GBAS (4227), or e-mail *givebackasmile@aacd.com*.

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