

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 29, 2008

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Operation Smile Utah Hosts *Second Annual Breakfast for Smiles* Wednesday, May 7 to Help Children Worldwide

NORFOLK, VA – Operation Smile Utah hosts its *Second Annual Breakfast for Smiles* on **Wednesday, May 7 at 7:30am at the Joseph Smith Memorial Building (Empire Room) in Salt Lake City**. The fundraising breakfast will celebrate the success of Operation Smile's 2007 *World Journey of Smiles*, in which Operation Smile volunteers in 25 countries changed the lives of more than 4,000 children worldwide in one week through reconstructive surgery to repair cleft lips and cleft palates. The Operation Smile Utah Chapter has supported the organization for 23 years, and recently provided more than 40 medical and non-medical volunteers for the *World Journey of Smiles*.

More than 150 community and business leaders will attend the event, which will be emceed by **Carole Mikita of KSL-TV Channel 5**. **Operation Smile Co-founders Dr. Bill and Kathy Magee** will be in attendance. **Jeanette Lynton, CEO and Founder of Close To My Heart**, will serve as honorary chairperson and keynote speaker. Lynton witnessed Operation Smile's work when she participated on a medical mission in Guadalajara, Mexico, in October 2007. Close To My Heart®, headquartered in Pleasant Grove, Utah and is an industry leader in innovative scrapbooking and stamping products.

Business and community leaders have generously contributed to this fundraising breakfast. Utah leaders who have donated major gifts to Operation Smile will be recognized, including **Bob Freeze, Vice President of Public Relations, XanGo, LLC**, representing the Lehi, Utah-based company's commitment of \$200,000 for medical missions in Mexico. **Close To My Heart** has contributed \$100,000 and **Melvyn Reeves, CLU, MSFS**, of Bountiful, Utah, is presenting a \$25,000 grant from the **MDRT Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the Million Dollar Round Table**. Additional donations have been received from **The Sorenson Legacy Foundation** (\$50,000) and **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Foundation** (\$25,000).

Guests will hear from **Thayne Shaffer, Vice President/Controller of America First Credit Union**, who joined a group of credit union executives from around the USA and climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa, in September 2007. This project raised money for children's charities, including \$14,000 for Operation Smile. Breakfast attendees will be treated to performance by **entertainer David Osmond**.

Operation Smile will give thanks to the companies and foundations in attendance, which help the organization provide hope and new smiles to children worldwide. Special thanks to **Utah-based Operation Kids**, which has been instrumental in securing donations and providing invaluable assistance to the work and mission of Operation Smile worldwide.

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About Operation Smile (www.operationismile.org)

Founded in 1982, Operation Smile, headquartered in Norfolk, Virginia, is a worldwide children's medical charity whose network of global volunteers are dedicated to helping improve the health and lives of children and young adults. Since its founding, Operation Smile volunteers have treated more than 115,000 children born with cleft lips, cleft palates and other facial deformities. In addition to contributing free medical treatment, Operation Smile trains local medical professionals in its 26 partner countries and leaves behind crucial equipment to lay the groundwork for long-term self-sufficiency.

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