

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **Norfolk Public School Students to Meet Healthcare Providers from Around the World on Friday, June 6**

**WHAT:** During “World Tour Student Day,” more than 300 middle school students from nine Norfolk public schools will meet and have an opportunity to interview **more than 20 health care providers from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Jordan, Kenya, Madagascar, Morocco, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Russia, Venezuela, and West Bank.** The plastic surgeons, anesthesiologists, pediatricians, speech pathologists, dentist and nurse are in Norfolk to participate in Operation Smile’s Physicians’ Training Program. Students will also complete a service project to benefit children around the world.

**WHEN:** Friday, June 6  
9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**WHERE:** Norfolk Academy  
1585 Wesleyan Drive  
Norfolk, Virginia

During “World Tour Student Day,” students will meet with healthcare providers from Operation Smile partner countries and learn about volunteerism, geography and healthcare. They will hear from **Operation Smile President and Co-founder Kathy Magee**, Student Programs Coordinator Monica Ruzicka, a high school student from Franklin who volunteered on recent Operation Smile medical mission to the Philippines, and plastic surgeon and Operation Smile volunteer Dr. Richard Rosenblum. Students from the Spanish Club at Ghent School who raised money for Operation Smile will present Kathy Magee with a check. Then students will divide into small groups and speak with physicians and Operation Smile staff members to learn more about Operation Smile and its partner countries. The students will create “get well” cards which will be given to Operation Smile patients after surgery. Operation Smile’s “World Tour Student Day” is part of Operation Smile’s Physicians’ Training Program, which has brought more than 90 healthcare providers from 28 countries to Norfolk, to learn new surgical techniques and expand their knowledge through lectures, lab rotations and operating room observation.

#### **About Operation Smile ([www.operationsmile.org](http://www.operationsmile.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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