

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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***** **MEDIA ADVISORY** *****

**OPERATION SMILE MEDICAL MISSION TO TAKE PLACE IN HYDERABAD,
INDIA FROM AUGUST 7-AUGUST 15, 2008**

*Medical Mission Team to Provide Free Surgery to Children Born with Cleft Lips
and Cleft Palates*

NORFOLK, VA – An Operation Smile Medical Mission team will arrive in **Hyderabad, India, for an international medical mission taking place August 7 -August 15, 2008** to assist children born with facial deformities. The team consists of more than 45 medical and non-medical volunteers from Canada, the Philippines, Singapore, the United Kingdom, and the United States who will be working side-by-side with local Indian medical volunteers at Rainbow Children’s Hospital & Perinatal Centre. Founded in 1982, Operation Smile is a worldwide children’s medical charity dedicated to helping improve the health and lives of children and young adults.

This will be Operation Smile’s first international medical mission to Hyderabad and the 13th international medical mission to India. Since 2002, Operation Smile medical volunteers have provided more than 4,200 Indian children and young adults with free physical examinations and more than 2,000 have received life-changing surgery during international medical missions.

The last medical mission in India took place from June 19 to June 27, 2008 when a team of medical and non-medical volunteers worked together in Vijayawada. In total, the medical team conducted free physical examinations for 274 children and young adults and provided surgery to 93 patients suffering with cleft lips, cleft palates and other facial deformities.

About Operation Smile (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 120,000 children born with cleft lips, cleft palates and other facial deformities and currently work in 51 countries. In addition to contributing free medical treatment, Operation Smile trains local medical professionals in its partner countries and leaves behind crucial equipment to lay the groundwork for long-term self-sufficiency.

Media Notes: To receive images or additional information, or to request an interview with an Operation Smile spokesperson, please contact Lisa Jones at ljones@operationsmile.org or 757-321-3252.

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