



**Kathy Magee, B.S.N., M.Ed., M.S.W.
Co-founder and President**

Kathleen S. Magee, B.S.N., M.Ed., M.S.W., a former nurse and clinical social worker, founded Operation Smile in 1982 with her husband, William P. Magee Jr., D.D.S., M.D. Ms. Magee serves as the president of Operation Smile on a full-time, volunteer basis and is a lifetime member of the Board of Directors.

A dedicated advocate for children around the world, Ms. Magee travels overseas extensively to nurture and maintain key corporate, diplomatic and medical partnerships that enable Operation Smile to carry out its surgical missions, with her focus in Asia. She has been instrumental in establishing several Operation Smile international foundations, which handle all of the logistical aspects of the medical missions and has led a majority of the organization's fact finding missions.

Ms. Magee is committed to bringing about positive change and improved medical care in Operation Smile's mission countries. She was part of the volunteer medical team that opened the first-ever burn unit in Nablus, West Bank, in December of 1996. Ms. Magee also helps coordinate Operation Smile's World Care Program which arranges care for children who have more complicated needs than can be met during a medical mission. World Care Programs in the United States and Australia arrange treatment, through sponsorships, where children stay with host families during the operation and recovery period.

Ms. Magee is deeply involved with Operation Smile's Student Program, which provides the opportunity for students to learn about volunteerism and support Operation Smile's work by raising funds and awareness. Operation Smile's commitment to student volunteers began when Ms. Magee's eldest daughter, Brigette, then 13, traveled on the first Operation Smile mission as a volunteer. Today, Ms. Magee continues to lead students in team-building activities throughout the year and during Operation Smile's annual International Student Leadership Conference. The Student Program has grown to involve thousands of students in more than 500 Student Associations around the world.

Ms. Magee's work on behalf of children around the world has led to the receipt of numerous awards and honors including the first \$1 million *Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize* in 1996 for "... exemplary and significant contributions to ease human suffering" and the *Servants of Peace Award* from the UN representative to the Vatican in 1997. In 1999, the Magees received the *Golden Plate Award*, "representing the many who excel in the great fields of endeavor" by the American Academy of Achievement. That same year, Ms. Magee received the *Kellogg's Hannah Neil World of Children Award*, a major international award that recognizes those who make a world of difference in the lives of children across the globe. In April 2001, she and Dr. Magee were awarded a *2001 Common Wealth Award of Distinguished Service* for outstanding achievement in public service. In November 2001, Operation Smile received the *Antonio Feltrinelli Prize for Exceptional Endeavors of Outstanding*

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Moral and Humanitarian Value by the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, which represents the National Academy of Science in Italy. In February 2004, Ms. Magee was inducted into the Toledo-based *Medical Mission Hall of Fame*, in honor of making a difference in the health of her fellow human beings; and in 2004, the organization was awarded *The Humanitarian Rose Award* from The People's Princess Charitable Foundation, Inc., London, England. In 2005 Ms. Magee was awarded the *Operation Smile Lifetime Volunteer Achievement Award*, and in 2007, USAID presented the Magees with the *President's Call to Service Award* from President George W. Bush.

Always eager to share the Operation Smile story, Ms. Magee has done countless interviews and has been a featured guest on "CNN," "Montel Williams," and appeared on "Dateline NBC," "CBS Sunday Morning," "48 Hours" and "NBC Nightly News."

The Magees envisioned and launched *World Journey of Hope '99*, the largest surgical mission in history dedicated to correcting facial deformities among some of the world's neediest children. The nine -week mission, the first-ever of its kind, transformed the lives of more than 5,300 children and young adults in 17 developing countries and in 10 cities across the United States. In 2007, during its 25th Anniversary, Operation Smile conducted *World Journey of Smiles (WJOS)*, simultaneous medical missions to 40 sites in 25 countries worldwide, which took place November 7-16, 2007. Free physical examinations were provided to 7,414 patients and 4,086 children born with cleft lips and cleft palates were provided free surgical treatment during WJOS. The initiative mobilized more than 1,900 volunteers from 44 countries and was the largest simultaneous medical mission of its kind.

Ms. Magee is the recipient of honorary degrees from Fordham University, Mt. St. Mary's College, Loyola College, Old Dominion University, College Misericordia and Denison University and was inducted into the Alumni Association Hall of Fame at the University of Maryland in 2000. She also is a member of the World of Children board of governors and the advisory board of the World Healing Institute.

A New Jersey native, Ms. Magee received her B.S.N. from College Misericordia in Pennsylvania, her M.Ed. from the University of Maryland and her M.S.W. from Norfolk State University in Virginia. She also completed graduate work at the University of Virginia and the Jung Institute in Switzerland. The Magees reside in Norfolk, Va., and have five grown children, all of whom have served on medical missions and are active in volunteer work for Operation Smile. In addition, the Magees have 13 grandchildren.

For more information on Operation Smile visit www.operationsmile.org.

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