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UCP WHEELS FOR HUMANITY RECEIVES A \$1.6 MILLION GRANT TO ESTABLISH A WHEELCHAIR MANUFACTURING PLANT IN INDONESIA

Los Angeles, CA, May 8, 2009 – UCP Wheels for Humanity (UCP WFH) has received a \$1.6 million grant from USAID to establish a manufacturing plant where wheelchairs will be assembled for Indonesian children with disabilities.

The grant will enable UCP WFH, a subsidiary of United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles, Ventura, and Santa Barbara Counties (UCP) to expand its global reach throughout Indonesia. This wheelchair manufacturing operation will be established in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. UCP WFH will be hiring employees with disabilities to manage and run the plant. The end product will be a specialized pediatric wheelchair which will be given, free of charge, to Indonesian children 3-14 years of age.

“The vast majority of Indonesia’s children with disabilities do not attend school; a consequence of their lack of mobility. Most of these children cannot leave their homes and require constant care. This affects their ability to receive an education and have any hope of escaping extreme poverty. Their condition affects the lives of their caregivers as well”, says Ronald S. Cohen, CEO of UCP Wheels for Humanity. “This project will change many lives.”

The project will become a long-term program in Indonesia, by providing broad services to children with disabilities and increasing the expertise of Indonesian physical therapists and occupational therapists. This program has the potential to become a global model for sustainable long-term support of children with disabilities. With their new found mobility children will be able to attend school and become models of empowerment for future generations of children with disabilities.

UCP WFH will be collaborating with in-country partners, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesian Society for the Care of Disabled Children (YPAC) and local physical therapy organizations.

For additional information about UCP WHEELS FOR HUMANITY RECEIVES A \$1.6 MILLION GRANT TO ESTABLISH A WHEELCHAIR MANUFACTURING PLANT IN INDONESIA, please contact Shannon Vukalcic at (818) 782-2211 ext. 524.

ABOUT UCP Wheels for Humanity - UCP WFH refurbishes donated wheelchairs and rehabilitation equipment to industry standards and works with world class physical and occupational therapists along with rehabilitation specialist to custom fit wheelchairs to children and adults with disabilities in developing nations. UCP WFH partners with international health-care organizations and rehabilitation hospitals to identify those in greatest need to receive one of their 5,000 wheelchairs that they distribute per year. UCP WFH is funded solely through contributions and is a subsidiary of UCP of Los Angeles.

ABOUT United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles, Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties - UCP operates over 41 program sites throughout five counties in Southern California and has extended its mission to serve all people with disabilities. These programs include adult day programs, community living services, group homes and independent living apartments. UCP provides services to nearly 1,100 children and adults with developmental disabilities daily.

ABOUT USAID - USAID is an independent federal government agency that receives overall foreign policy guidance from the Secretary of State. Their work supports long-term and equitable economic growth and advances U.S. foreign policy objectives by supporting economic growth, agriculture and trade; global health; and, democracy, conflict prevention and humanitarian assistance.

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