

For Immediate Release

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Hermosa Residents Participate in R.A.M. – L.A. Event

The Remote Area Medical (RAM) team along with local L.A. volunteers setup a seven-day free clinic in downtown L.A. at the Los Angeles Sports Arena from April 27 – May 3, 2010. For one week Medical, Dental and Vision doctors provided free care to those in need, without cost to the patient, the taxpayer or the government.

Local Hermosa residents, Don and Deborah Wright-DeMaderios, worked for months in advance to recruit vision professionals and coordinate equipment and medical supplies for the vision operations of the RAM LA relief campaign. Deborah organized a team of volunteers comprised of 420 Optometry Doctors, Ophthalmology M.D.s and Optical Techs and 110 general volunteers. "The Remote Area Medical event in Los Angeles broke all RAM records for eye exams. Volunteer vision care professionals provided eye exams to 3,331 people, most of whom received prescription glasses. In one day alone, volunteers examined 572 eye patients. The total patient count was 6,587, so over half of the patient population came for vision care and received it from a host of dedicated volunteer providers." said Stan Brock, Founder and Director of Operations RAM USA.

"Many of the patients we examined were working class people who were under insured and have not had an eye exam in several years and could not afford a new pair of glasses" said Vision Clinic Director Deborah Wright DeMaderios. Another Hermosa resident, Laurie Baker, volunteered in the dispensing department of the RAM Vision Clinic "I forgot what fun it is helping patients choose and fit eyewear. I was very impressed by the quality of the eyeglass frames and the finished product. I met some wonderful people and I was overwhelmed by the thankful and appreciative patients I came in contact with "

"The appreciation expressed by the patients makes seven 14-hour days of volunteering worth it all. We identified a tumor in one man's eye and referred him for further free care. A woman shared how we discovered a treatable disease that otherwise would have left her 7 year-old granddaughter blind by age 16. This was a great experience worth repeating" said Don DeMaderios.

This year's event was about Los Angeles coming together, as a community, to help our own during this economic downturn. Over 60 organizations and community groups, large and small, have contributed all of the medical resources and volunteers to help make this year's RAM clinic a success.

For more information about RAM go to www.ramusa.org <<http://www.ramusa.org>>

Photo attached Deb Wright-DeMaderios, Stan Brock, Don DeMaderios