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ZACH BONNER TO BRING HOPE AND HELP TO NATION'S 1.3 MILLION HOMELESS YOUTH IN NEARLY 2,500-MILE "MARCH ACROSS AMERICA"

12-Year-Old's Ambitious Journey Begins Today Near Bonner's Home City of Tampa

Tampa, FL (March 23, 2010) – Having already walked 1,225 miles "From My House to the White House" to raise public awareness about homeless children in America, twelve-year-old philanthropist **Zach Bonner** today launches an even more ambitious effort – beginning a 2,478-mile "**March Across America**" from his home city of Tampa to Los Angeles. His coast-to-coast journey, which can be tracked through the website www.MarchAcrossAmerica.com, begins with a press conference at Lazydays RV Campground near Tampa.



"March Across America" is sponsored by AOL/KOL, Lazydays and Lazydays Employee Foundation, Little Red Wagon Foundation, Office Depot Foundation, PacSun, Philanthropy Project, and Variety: The Children's Charity of Southern California, with additional support by Build-A-Bear Workshop, Caspers Company McDonald's, K12, and Outback Steakhouse/Carrabba's.

Bonner, who has received the U.S. President's Volunteer Service Award and been profiled on "Good Morning America" and in other media, will travel by foot through hundreds of U.S. towns and cities, including Tallahassee, FL; Jackson, MS; Shreveport, LA; Longview, TX; Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX; and Phoenix, AZ, before arriving in Los Angeles, CA in September.

Philanthropy Project, in association with Anonymous Content (*Babel, 50 First Dates*), is also producing a feature-length motion picture, *Little Red Wagon*, inspired by Zach's life story. The film, written by Patrick Sheane Duncan (*Mr. Holland's Opus*) and to be directed by David Anspaugh (*Rudy, Hoosiers*), is scheduled to begin principal photography May 26 in South Carolina.

"March Across America," I hope, will give voice to the millions of kids that do not have one," says Bonner. "If it only helps one child, it will be completely worth it."

The kick-off press conference at Lazydays RV Campground, located in Seffner, Florida appx. 16 miles east of Tampa, begins at 10:00 a.m. Zach Bonner and his mother, Laurie, will spend the previous night in a camper, donated by Lazydays for his six-month "March Across America." Among others participating in the press conference are Philanthropy Project's Dr. Michael Guillen, a best-selling author and three-time Emmy winner known for his 14-year post as ABC News science editor. Other attendees include John Horton, CEO Lazydays and Christopher Noe, Office Depot Foundation Manager. Following the press event, all attendees are invited to walk the first mile with Zach.

Philanthropic events with homeless shelters, churches, local politicians and others, organized with the help of Variety: The Children's Charity of Southern California and Jr. Variety, as well as local theaters,

(more)

will take place along Zach's route. Anyone can support him and his cause throughout the 13,083,840-ft. journey by purchasing "feet" via the "March Across America" website and special dedicated merchandise at PacSun stores nationwide, with proceeds going to Zach's Little Red Wagon Foundation, which supports homeless youth organizations, and Variety: The Children's Charity of Southern California. The march wraps with a celebratory event in Los Angeles.

In support of the "March Across America," the Office Depot Foundation will donate 2,478 backpacks to the Little Red Wagon Foundation – one for every mile that Zach walks – to help homeless children succeed in school.

In 2004, in the wake of Hurricane Charley, then six-year-old Zach Bonner used his red wagon to gather water and supplies for storm victims. The next year he founded the Tampa-based nonprofit Little Red Wagon Foundation (www.littleredwagonfoundation.com) to help distressed and underprivileged kids and to encourage youth to make a difference in their own neighborhoods. In Fall 2007, Zach began a 1,225-mile-long "My House to the White House" walk, on behalf of the 1.3 million homeless youth in America and youth volunteerism generally, by walking from his hometown of Tampa to Tallahassee. The next fall he continued the journey by walking from Tallahassee to Atlanta and, in summer 2009, completed the effort by walking from Atlanta to Washington, DC, where he met with U.S. Senators and Representatives.

About Variety: The Children's Charity and Jr. Variety – About Variety: The Children's Charity and Jr. Variety - Variety the Children's Charity of Southern California (www.varietysocal.org) is a 69-year-old philanthropic organization that has raised millions of dollars to provide lifesaving and life-enriching assistance to children in need in Southern California. Part of Variety: The Children's Charity, a worldwide organization that spans the globe with 43 chapters in 13 countries, including the United States. The members have raised over \$1.5 billion to serve children in need. Please visit www.usvariety.org. Jr. Variety is a new generation of youth committed to inspiring hope, enriching lives and building a better future for the children of the world. Jr. Variety has been created to draw teens and young adults into philanthropic work: helping children who are disabled, abused, physically challenged, and/or underprivileged. Jr. Variety (www.jrvarietyocal.org) raises awareness among teenagers about the importance of giving back to their local communities and making a difference in the lives of children in need.

About Lazydays – Lazydays Employee Foundation was formed as a non-profit organization by the employees of Lazydays in order to enhance their ability to support their community's at-risk children. The Foundation's fund is comprised primarily through employee contributions made by payroll deduction. To date the employees of Lazydays have generated pledges of over \$1,000,000 for children's charities in the Tampa Bay area. For more information please visit www.ldpf.org.

About the Office Depot Foundation – The Office Depot Foundation is an independent foundation (tax exempt under IRC Sec. 501(c)(3)) that serves as the independent charitable giving arm of Office Depot, Inc. In keeping with its mission, Listen Learn Care®, the Foundation supports a variety of programs that help children succeed in school and in life; enable civil society (non-profit) organizations to become more efficient and effective; help people and businesses prepare for disasters, then recover and rebuild afterwards; strengthen local communities through grants, product donations and volunteerism; and encourage community development through entrepreneurship and economic innovation. For more information, visit www.officedepotfoundation.org.

About Pacific Sunwear – Pacific Sunwear is a leading lifestyle specialty retailer rooted in the youth culture of California. The company sells casual apparel with a limited selection of accessories and footwear designed to meet the needs of teens and young adults. The company currently operates 894 stores in 50 states and Puerto Rico. PacSun's website address is www.pacsun.com.

About Philanthropy Project – Philanthropy Project, which launched in October 2007 with an unprecedented grant from the John Templeton Foundation (www.templeton.org), is a not-for-profit initiative committed to using the power of the moving image to inspire every American man, woman, and child to be a citizen philanthropist. Focusing on the 72,000 charitable foundations across America, Philanthropy Project aims to tell their remarkable stories through film, television and the Internet. It has partnered with AOL to create an unprecedented philanthropy web TV channel, www.aolnews.com/philanthropy.