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Valley Company Supports Children's Message of Survival
Youth with cancer tell their story in a unique way

(PHOENIX July 13, 2006) --Wood/Patel, the Valley's leading civil engineering firm, and Beads of Courage®, an Arizona non-profit organization, are pleased to announce their partnership. Wood/Patel's financial contribution and volunteer support is yet another example of the company's strong commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of residents throughout Arizona.

Beads of Courage® is a resilience-based intervention designed to support and strengthen the protective resources in children coping with cancer. The program gives children a chance to tell their story of cancer survival using colorful beads as meaningful symbols of courage that commemorate milestones they have achieved along their unique treatment path.

"Wood Patel believes good corporate citizenship is in the best interest of our company and helps ensure the organization's long-term viability. Through our community relations activities, we contribute to the economic and social well being of a range of stakeholders, including employees, clients and the communities in which we operate," said Dennison, Wood/Patel Director of Operations.

For children battling cancer, there is a different story behind each bead in their "Beads of Courage" collection. Blue ones represent each trip to the cancer clinic, red for a blood transfusion, brown for loss of hair, white for chemotherapy, and glow-in-the-dark beads for radiation treatment.

"We are pleased that Wood/Patel is so willing to utilize their position as a corporate leader in Arizona to support Beads of Courage," said Jean Baruch, the program's President and Executive Director.

Research indicates that the program helps to decrease illness-related distress, increases the use of positive coping strategies, helps children find meaning in illness, and restores sense of self in children coping with cancer. The program also provides something tangible the child can use to tell about their experience during cancer treatment and after.

About Wood/Patel

Wood/Patel, the Valley's #1 civil engineering firm, as ranked by The Arizona Business Magazine (*Ranking Arizona-The Best of Arizona Business, 2004, 2005 and 2006*), has been serving Arizona communities in the Valley for over 20 years. Wood/Patel is a full-service civil engineering, surveying, transportation and construction management firm providing services to public and private sector clients. The firm offers water/wastewater, transportation, hydrology, master planned communities, surveying and construction management services. Currently, Wood/Patel employs more than 200 engineers, hydrologists, surveyors, construction managers and support technical and administrative staff. Please visit our website at www.woodpatel.com for more information.

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