

E.W. Bill Wright, III of Houston, TX Honored with American Diabetes Association's National Service Achievement Award

-- E.W. Bill Wright, III Presented with Community Based Volunteer Award for Leadership

ALEXANDRIA, VA (November 24, 2008) – The American Diabetes Association, the nation's largest and leading voluntary health organization in the fight against diabetes, announced that E.W. Bill Wright, III of Houston, TX, was awarded the Community Based Volunteer Award for Leadership at the organization's Community Volunteer Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting on November 22 in Tampa, FL.

The American Diabetes Association's Community Based Volunteer Awards recognize volunteers who embody the spirit of the Association's mission through their outstanding contributions. Specifically, the Association salutes outstanding volunteers in the areas of Advocacy, Fund Raising, Leadership and Outreach.

“We are delighted that E.W. Bill Wright, III has received the American Diabetes Association's Community Based Volunteer Award for Leadership,” said Ralston Creswell, Senior Executive Director, American Diabetes Association, Houston, TX. “His leadership truly helps us further our mission to fight diabetes and its deadly complications.”

Wright's untiring and dedicated leadership in the Houston community has contributed to the success of the American Diabetes Association's mission by chairing the local Community Leadership Board and recruiting local business leaders to join. He also took the initiative to lead on Gala and Step Out: Walk to Fight Diabetes events by providing strategic direction to the local volunteers and staff.

Diabetes is a serious disease that affects the body's ability to produce or respond properly to insulin, a hormone that allows blood sugar to enter the cells of the body and be used for energy. Nearly 24 million children and adults have diabetes in the U.S. While an estimated 17.9 million have been diagnosed, unfortunately, 5.7 million people are not aware that they have the disease.

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The American Diabetes Association is leading the fight against the deadly consequences of diabetes and fighting for those affected by diabetes. The Association funds research to prevent, cure and manage diabetes; delivers services to hundreds of communities; provides objective and credible information; and gives voice to those denied their rights because of diabetes. Founded in 1940, our mission is to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes. For more information please call the American Diabetes Association at 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383) or visit www.diabetes.org. Information from both these sources is available in English and Spanish.

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