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## **American Cancer Society Announces 2010 Voices of Hope**

### **Survivors and Caregivers Dedicate Time and Commitment to local Relay For Life Events**

[NAZARETH, PA] – December XX, 2009 – The American Cancer Society recently announced its 25 Voices of Hope volunteers for 2010. The Voices of Hope program is a state-wide initiative engaging cancer survivors and caregivers to tell their stories and how they benefited from the American Cancer Society.

The Voices of Hope will serve in many different roles, including honorary chairs for their local Relay For Life, speaking at volunteer trainings, conferences and rallies, and helping recruit other survivors to attend local Relays.

Cindy and Robert Smith are a married couple who are both survivors and caregivers in this year's Voices of Hope. Cindy was diagnosed with Breast Cancer in 1996 and Robert was diagnosed with Melanoma in 2003.

They both got involved with the Relay For Life of Slate Belt and the American Cancer Society to encourage others about the importance of early detection. "If you see or feel something that you think is not normal, call and make an appointment with your doctor as soon as possible," Mr. Smith said.

Mrs. Smith is looking forward to serving as a 2010 "Voice" to continue "meeting so many wonderful, caring people through volunteering and being involved in the American Cancer Society Relay For Life."

Relay For Life is a community event that gives participants the chance to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease. During Relay For Life, teams of people camp out at a local high school or park and take turns walking or running around a track or path to raise money for cancer. This year's Voices of Hope will take an active role in their community's Relay For Life and provide support and encouragement to participants. To find your local Relay For Life, please visit [www.relayforlife.org](http://www.relayforlife.org).

The American Cancer Society combines an unyielding passion with nearly a century of experience to save lives and end suffering from cancer. As a global grassroots force of more than three million volunteers, we fight for every birthday threatened by every cancer in every community. We save lives by helping people stay well by preventing cancer or detecting it early; helping people get well by being there for them during and after a cancer diagnosis; by finding cures through investment in groundbreaking discovery; and by fighting back by rallying lawmakers to pass laws to defeat cancer and by rallying communities worldwide to join the fight. As the nation's largest non-governmental investor in cancer research, contributing about \$3.4 billion, we turn what we know about cancer into what we do. As a result, more than 11 million people in America who have had cancer and countless more who have avoided it will be celebrating birthdays this year. To learn more about us or to get help, call us anytime, day or night, at 1-800-227-2345 or visit [cancer.org](http://cancer.org).

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