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Local Dental Laboratory, Kuwata Pan Dent, Volunteers in AACD's Give Back A Smile™ Program for Domestic Violence Survivors

October 7, 2008 Cedar Knolls, NJ – Local dental laboratory, Kuwata Pan Dent, has joined the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry's *Give Back A Smile™* (GBAS) program to fight the effects of domestic violence by providing free consultation and dental treatment to restore the smiles of survivors.

“Through the *Give Back A Smile* program, AACD members assist survivors by treating their dental injuries that were sustained from domestic violence, so that they may reclaim their smiles, their self-esteem and, ultimately, their lives. Our dental lab will help make this possible by donating the lab work, such as crowns and bridges,” commented laboratory owner, Yukio Otsubo.

How the program works

- Domestic violence survivors who have suffered dental injuries from abuse from a former intimate partner or spouse can contact GBAS toll-free at: **800.773.GBAS (4227)**
- Survivors must make an appointment with a counselor, domestic violence advocate, social worker or therapist to complete the advocate section of the GBAS application.
- GBAS conducts the initial review of the application however the dentist has the final say as to the eligibility of the applicant.
- If eligible, the AACD connects the survivor with a local GBAS volunteer who provides treatment at no charge to the recipient.

For complete details, visit the GBAS Web site at www.givebackasmile.com.

Helping the Community by Helping Individuals

“Because more than five million people are affected by domestic violence every year in the United States, there is clearly a need for a program like *Give Back A Smile* to help survivors rejuvenate their lives through the caring hands of a local dentist and made possible by a local dental laboratory,” Kuwata Pan Dent.

In July 2001, the AACD was one of only eight organizations in the world to receive the Award of Excellence and the prestigious Associations Advance America Summit Award for its GBAS program. The American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), of Washington, D.C, sponsors this yearly national competition to recognize the charitable organizations that make the most effort to advance American society.

For complete details about the *Give Back A Smile* program, as well as more information regarding how doctors can participate, visit www.givebackasmile.com or call toll-free: 800.543.9220. Those interested in finding help with the *Give Back A Smile* program can also visit the Web site, call the National Hotline: 800.773.GBAS, or send an e-mail to givebackasmile@aacd.com.