



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Patient Services, Inc. Hosts 4th Annual Evening of Hope

Midlothian, VA, October 30, 2017--National patient assistance foundation **Patient Services, Inc. (PSI)**, held their annual event, themed “Evening of Hope”, on Wednesday, October 25, 2017 in historical DC. Standing between the U.S. Capitol and the White House on Pennsylvania Avenue on a crisp fall night, the event held at the Newseum celebrated PSI as the founding patient assistance charity and how over the past 28 years, it has restored hope and health to hundreds of thousands of patients.

In welcoming the 100 plus invited guests, PSI founder Dana Kuhn, Ph.D. said, “Those in the audience tonight, pharmaceutical companies, specialty pharmacies, patients, advocates, caregivers and representatives, have all displayed the highest honor of compassion toward their fellow human being by providing hope.”

The evening, emceed by Bill Gilliam of Black Tie Entertainment, began with a sunset cocktail reception on the 7th floor terrace of the Newseum overlooking DC’s historic landmarks followed by a seated dinner indoors. The evening’s program included an address from Congressman Clay Higgins, supporting PSI’s efforts to ensure that no patient is left behind, stressing the importance of charities, an address from PSI president/founder Dana Kuhn noting that despite the current challenges in healthcare, PSI would prevail and continue to provide life-saving services to the rare disease community, and a musical performance by rising pop artist and songwriter Cameron James, mother to patient Elise Shadinger and wife of James Shadinger. Additionally, the evening included live patient testimonies from James and Cameron Shadinger and Courtney Midkiff. Their stories inspired everyone in attendance. Lastly, PSI was delighted to honor four outstanding individuals during the awards portion of the program:

Patient Leadership Award

PSI confers this Award upon a community leader that has the confidence to stand alone, courage to make tough decisions, and compassion to listen to the needs of others. This person does not set out to be a leader, but becomes one by the quality of their actions and the integrity of their intent. PSI presented this award to Dr. Wally Smith who is a leader in the sickle cell community. Throughout the years, Dr. Smith has maintained his immense commitment to helping patients in need, supporting their families, treating over 400 adult patients with sickle cell disease, as well as leading community members in advocating for patient needs.

Bradley Cross Lifetime Achievement Award

PSI inaugurated this Award for an individual’s specific, positive, extraordinary and enduring accomplishments. The 2017 recipient was Michael Bradley. Michael is the Vice President of the Board of Directors for The Hemophilia Council of California, and has served the bleeding disorders community for over 30 years. His efforts have been instrumental in protecting patient assistance for decades. PSI Chairman of the Board, Gary Cross, created this award in memory of his son, the late Bradley Cross. The Cross family lost their hemophiliac son after he became infected with HIV through contaminated blood used for his treatment.

Extraordinary Support Award

This Award recognizes a person who has made outstanding contributions of service to ensure that patients living with a chronic illness maintain quality of life and exceptional treatment. PSI presented the 2017 Award to Brad Wong, President and CEO of The Pulmonary Hypertension Association. For more than 25 years, Brad has personally and professionally been committed to improving access to quality care, strengthening medical

education, advancing medical research, and empowering patients to become effective advocates for their personal care and the health care policies that affect them.

Chairman’s Award

This Award is given to a community leader(s) or organization that honors and best embodies the purpose and goals of ensuring that chronically ill patients receive affordable access to care. This community leader(s) is recognized for their excellence in service, dedication, and ongoing efforts to serve patients in need. Their commitment to the patient community has brought about positive change essential to improving the lives of those living with a chronic illness. Nicole Boice, founder of Global Genes, was the recipient of this noble award. Nicole was personally touched by rare disease through friends, whose son struggled to find a diagnosis for over 3 years. Once diagnosed, they learned that there were neither treatments nor cures for their son’s disease. Nicole understands the importance of finding a diagnosis, the need to help equip patient advocates with tolls and resources to help them on their journey, and knows the power and importance of patients and their increasing role in developing treatments and cures.

In addition to the awards, PSI was honored to have James and Cameron Shadinger, a family supported by PSI, and Courtney Midkiff, a long-time patient, in attendance. Each gave a touching testimony and shared how PSI has restored hope and health to their lives. Cameron Shadinger (also known as Cameron James), a rare disease warrior and talented pop artist and songwriter, followed up the testimony portion of the program with a musical performance and sang “All Is Not Lost” a song that she wrote about her daughter and husband’s battle against Atypical Hemolytic-Uremic Syndrome (aHUS). There wasn’t a dry eye in the audience after her unforgettable, heartwarming performance.

Gary Cross, PSI Chairman of the Board, concluded to the audience, “Even after 17 years of serving on PSI’s Board of Directors, I am still amazed by the staff’s gift for putting a smile of hope on the face of a patient. To all of our friends and visitors this evening, thank you for your compassion and support, thank you for helping us give so many hope.”

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ABOUT PATIENT SERVICES, INC.

Patient Services, Inc. (PSI) is a groundbreaking 501(c)(3) non-profit, charitable organization, certified as a four-star charity by Charity Navigator and a GuideStar Platinum Preferred Status service provider. Back in 1989, PSI recognized the importance of providing a "safety net" for patients with chronic illnesses who were struggling to keep up with expensive insurance premiums and co-payments. PSI has since led the charge to provide much-needed patient assistance, soliciting donations to fund thousands of patients and their families in a myriad of disease areas. Today, the need is as critical as ever. From its original mission serving patients affected by hemophilia and HIV, it has expanded service into over 40 other chronic illnesses after pioneering its Patient Assistance model. PSI was granted the first positive US OIG opinion 02-01 allowing manufacturers to donate to Non-Profit Organizations (NPOs) to satisfy premiums and copayments.

Today, PSI provides financial assistance to thousands of patients and their families in numerous disease areas to help ensure that no one goes without health insurance or life-saving treatment.

Media Contact: Mandy Herbert, MBA, PSI Director of Community Outreach
Phone Number: 804-521-7916
Fax Number: 804-744-5408
Email: maherbert@uneeedpsi.org
Company Website: www.patientservicesinc.org