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For Immediate Release

Hydrocephalus Association Reaches the Spanish-speaking Community

Hydrocephalus Association launches Spanish-language pages on hydrocephalus

Bethesda, MD, September 26, 2012: The Hydrocephalus Association announced that it will launch its Spanish-language landing pages on their website on Wednesday, October 3, 2012. The launch coincides with Hispanic Heritage month (mid-September through mid-October) as well as serves as a celebratory ending to September's Hydrocephalus Awareness month.

The Spanish-landing pages will provide critical information to Spanish-speaking families regarding hydrocephalus, including the symptoms, causes, and treatment options. Families and individuals will also find links to Spanish-language print materials available for download. "By consolidating all of the information for Spanish-speaking families and individuals, we hope to welcome the Spanish-speaking community into our current information-sharing and support network," stated Amanda Garzón, Communications and Marketing Manager. The Hydrocephalus Association already reaches over 10,000 individuals in the U.S. whose lives are touched by hydrocephalus.

Nearly one million people across the United States – including children, seniors, and increasingly our veterans – are living with hydrocephalus, a disease characterized by excess cerebrospinal fluid in the brain. Hydrocephalus can be diagnosed at birth or it can be the result of an injury or illness. A certain form of the disease simply develops with age and can be easily misdiagnosed as Alzheimer's or Parkinson's, though many of the devastating symptoms can be reversed with surgery. Experts also suspect that hydrocephalus has or will develop in two-thirds of our Armed Forces with moderate or severe traumatic brain injuries (TBI).

While treatable, people living with hydrocephalus face the prospect of dozens of brain surgeries throughout their lifetime as one out of every two shunts implanted to treat this condition fails within two years – the highest failure rate of any implantable medical device on the market today.

There is no specific data on the number of Hispanics living with hydrocephalus in the U.S. As part of their mission, the Hydrocephalus Association is committed to providing support and educational materials to all individuals affected by this condition. They are excited about the opportunity to serve the nation's growing Hispanic population. The Spanish-language pages can be found on their website under the Education and Support menu option.

About the Hydrocephalus Association

The Hydrocephalus Association (HA) is a national organization dedicated to eliminating the challenges of hydrocephalus by stimulating research and supporting people who are affected by this condition. Incorporated in 1986 as a San Francisco-based non-profit, HA is now the nation's largest and most widely respected organization dedicated solely to serving those affected by hydrocephalus. HA has been instrumental in creating a community of individuals, families and health care professionals addressing the complexities of hydrocephalus in all age groups.

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