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Contact:

Michelle L. Milford
Lance Armstrong Foundation
(512) 279-8403
michelle.milford@laf.org

Debora Treu
Alliance of State Pain Initiatives
(608) 265-5748
dltru@wisc.edu

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ELEVEN STATE PAIN INITIATIVES RECEIVE GRANTS FOR PAIN RELIEF EFFORTS

Funding Supports Activities to Improve Pain Management for People Living with Cancer

AUSTIN, Texas — September 26, 2007 — The Lance Armstrong Foundation (LAF) and the Alliance of State Pain Initiatives (ASPI) announced today the selection of eleven State Pain Initiatives (SPIs) that will receive grants to carry out projects directed at overcoming barriers to pain relief at the state and local level and improve the quality of life for people living with cancer.

The grant funding made possible through a national partnership of the LAF and ASPI will improve cancer pain management nationwide while providing infrastructure, financial and programmatic support to the individual SPIs that make up the ASPI network.

The SPIs and activities selected to receive funding for 2007-2008 include:

- Idaho Pain Initiative to facilitate a statewide stakeholders meeting to identify the barriers to pain management and create educational outreach to healthcare providers;
- Massachusetts Pain Initiative to improve pain assessment and management practices in healthcare institutions and facilitate planning sessions to identify strategies for the future growth of the MPI;
- Michigan Cancer Pain Initiative to develop a comprehensive interactive website to devoted to pain management;
- Missouri Pain Initiative to hold a “Prescribers School” aimed at increasing the number of physicians knowledgeable about appropriate pain management practices and current legal parameters;
- Montana Pain Initiative to develop a plan for implementation of statewide pain management goals and to improve pain assessment and management practices in healthcare institutions;
- Nebraska Pain Initiative to conduct pain educational presentations on pain management throughout the state during Pain Awareness Month;

- New Hampshire Pain Initiative to develop, present and video-tape skits providing pain management information for senior centers and long-term care facilities statewide;
- New Mexico Pain Initiative to increase the understanding of pain management and state pain policies through a series of workshops bringing together clinicians, regulators and representatives of law enforcement;
- South Carolina Pain Initiative to produce a video-based pain management educational package for patient use in hospitals throughout the state;
- Washington and Alaska Pain Initiative to develop and implement strategies for clarifying the laws, regulations and practice guidelines governing the use of opioid analgesics in the state of Washington;
- Wyoming Pain Initiative to facilitate a statewide stakeholders meeting to build on the work of the legislatively-mandated “pain management committee” and create strategies for sustaining the WPI.

“The State Pain Initiatives use their pain management expertise and extensive knowledge of their state and local communities to implement innovative programs aimed at the undertreatment of pain. These grants take us far forward toward our goal of transforming the culture of pain care,” said Michelle Grant Ervin, M.D., chairperson of the ASPI advisory council.

More than half of all persons with cancer experience pain. Unrelieved pain adversely affects physical function, productivity, psychological well-being and social interactions.

“Ensuring people with cancer can access pain control that is safe and effective is fundamental to our goal of helping people with cancer live life on their own terms,” said Andy Miller, vice president of programs and policy at the Lance Armstrong Foundation. “We are pleased to support these efforts and the important work of the Alliance of State Pain Initiatives.”

About the Lance Armstrong Foundation

The Lance Armstrong Foundation (LAF) unites people to fight cancer, believing that unity is strength, knowledge is power and attitude is everything. We provide the practical information and tools people battling cancer need to live life on their own terms. We take aim at the gap between what is known and what is done to prevent death and suffering due to cancer. We engage the public at large to pursue an agenda focused on preventing cancer, ensuring access to screening and care, improving the quality of life for people affected by cancer, and investing in needed research. Founded in 1997 by cancer survivor and champion cyclist Lance Armstrong, the LAF is located in Austin, Texas. UNITE at LIVESTRONG.org.

About the Alliance of State Pain Initiatives

The Alliance of State Pain Initiatives (ASPI) is a network of state based Pain Initiatives that work to remove the barriers that impede pain relief through education, advocacy, and institutional improvement. The national office of the ASPI is affiliated with the University of Wisconsin Paul P. Carbone Comprehensive Cancer Center. For more information, visit www.aspi.wisc.edu.