AmeriCares and AstraZeneca Work Together Delivering Critical Medicines to Help People Living with Chronic Diseases in the U.S.

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STAMFORD, Conn., March 28, 2011 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- AmeriCares and AstraZeneca have teamed to deliver critical medicines to help people living with chronic diseases throughout the United States. AstraZeneca has donated $5 million in cardiovascular and gastrointestinal medications to AmeriCares in support of its Domestic Medical Assistance Program. The program delivers donated medicines and medical supplies to a network of more than 300 clinics treating the uninsured and underinsured. Through the AstraZeneca donation, AmeriCares will be able to deliver prescription medications to more than 100 clinics across 38 states.

"AmeriCares delivery of medical assistance has tripled in just the past two years alone," said Adam Zayan, M.D., vice president of programs at AmeriCares. "With clinics struggling to meet rising demands, this donation from AstraZeneca is crucial to helping people living with chronic diseases. We are so grateful to AstraZeneca for partnering with us so we can increase access to these vital medicines and help restore health to so many people in need throughout the country."

By working together, AmeriCares and AstraZeneca will help clinics across the United States treat patients suffering from chronic health conditions, including acid reflux, hypertension, high cholesterol and cardiovascular diseases, as well as helping to reduce complications stemming from diabetes. Since 2003, AstraZeneca donated essential medicines to AmeriCares valued at more than $63 million.

"Our medicines can only be effective if people have access to them, so these programs are essential," said Jennifer McGovern, director, patient assistance programs, AstraZeneca.

About AmeriCares

AmeriCares is a nonprofit global health and disaster relief organization which delivers medicines, medical supplies and aid to people in need around the world and across the United States. Since it was established in 1982, Ameri
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