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## **ASTRO, Wellness Community South Bay Cities Join to Promote Cancer Survivorship**

September 11, 2007 – As part of an initiative to give back to the cancer communities in the cities visited during its annual scientific meetings, the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ASTRO) is partnering with The Wellness Community – South Bay Cities to raise awareness of cancer survivorship issues.

Volunteers from The Wellness Community will join forces with ASTRO by participating in the Survivor Circle exhibit at ASTRO's 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, scheduled for October 28-November 1, 2007, at the Los Angeles Convention Center in Los Angeles. The Survivor Circle was created to recognize and honor those who are living with a diagnosis of cancer. This year, it will focus on the programs offered by Los Angeles-area cancer organizations that help patients and their families cope with this disease. Within the Survivor Circle, there is a place for visitors to learn more about this Wellness Community in Redondo Beach, Calif., the programs it provides and make donations. One hundred percent of all donations collected will be given to support cancer programs in the Los Angeles area.

“We are excited to work with such a well-established, nationally recognized organization, especially during the year of the Wellness Community's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and this chapter's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary,” said Louis Harrison, M.D., President of ASTRO. “By joining together, we hope to raise funds for important cancer survivorship programs while educating our members on the important work this group does on behalf of people living with a diagnosis of cancer.”

“As a cancer survivor myself for nearly 17 years,” said Judith K. Opdahl, Executive Director of The Wellness Community-South Bay Cities, “it is such an honor for us to be invited to participate in the Survivor Circle with such a distinguished partner.”

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ASTRO is the largest radiation oncology society in the world, with nearly 9,000 members who specialize in treating patients with radiation therapies. As the leading organization in radiation oncology, biology and physics, the Society is dedicated to improving patient care through education, clinical practice, advancement of science and advocacy.

The Wellness Community – South Bay Cities is a non-profit organization whose mission is to help people affected by cancer enhance their health and well-being through participation in a professional program of emotional support, education and hope - all completely free of charge.

For more information on The Wellness Community – South Bay Cities, please attend the ASTRO Annual Meeting October 28-November 1, 2007, at the Los Angeles Convention Center or visit their Web site at [www.wellnessandcancer.org](http://www.wellnessandcancer.org). For more information on ASTRO's or ASTRO's Annual Meeting, please visit [www.astro.org](http://www.astro.org).

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