

## MMI Press Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Date: May 23, 2012 Dallas, Texas

## Medical Ministry International announces New Executive Director/ CEO - Samuel T. Smith

Medical Ministry International, an international organization providing spiritual and physical healthcare in a world of need, announced today its unanimous election of Samuel T. Smith as new Executive Director/CEO.

In making this announcement, Medical Ministry International Board Chairman, Dr. Chris Chow, stated, "We are extremely excited to have Sam join our team and build upon the the historical success of MMI. He is an executive with documented success leading both secular and global non-profit organizations. MMI is committed to following the model of Jesus and sharing the good news of the Gospel by providing quality medical services around the world".

With nearly twenty-five years of experience in the area of Brand and Marketing Development, Sam previously served as CEO of the International Charity, Mercy Ships, where the organization achieved record results during his tenure. Prior to his entry into the non-profit world, Smith served as an executive within the apparel industry helping to develop global brands from inception to market implementation. He has worked with some of the largest manufacturing and retail organizations in North America, such as Macy's, Lord & Taylor, Marshall Fields, Dillard's, Hartmarx, and Jack Nicklaus. Sam is currently serving as the Vice Chairman of the Advisory Board for the Dewitt School of Nursing and on the Advisory Board of the Nelson Rusche School of Business at Stephen F. Austin State University. He is Founder/President of Lone Star Select Youth Sports, a non-profit organization that provides an athletic platform for youth to develop into kids of character both on and off the field of play. He and his wife, Jill, have two children, Sheridan and Jensen, and they reside in Bullard, Texas.

Sam remarked, "Medical Ministry International's focus will be to use Jesus as our guide and provide a message of compassion while also building sustainable training programs to positively impact the poor. This is God's Ministry, and we are honored to be asked to serve on His team. We are anxious to get started with MMI and optimize the gifts that God provides!" In making this announcement, Dr. Chow also praised the work of MMI's Founders, Willie and Janice Hunter.. "We are grateful for our founder Willie Hunter and his vision to provide medical care to the underprivileged and underserved peoples of the world in the name of Jesus Christ. We are excited that Willie and Janice will continue to serve MMI's initiatives under Sam's directive."

MMI Founder, Willie Hunter, noted, "My wife Janice and I welcome Sam and Jill Smith to the MMI Family. We are all committed to the work of the Gospel through MMI. Sam, as our new Executive Director/CEO, brings new energies and perspectives to the MMI Vision of caring for 100,000,000 patients per year by 2050. He might even double that!"

## **About Medical Ministry International:**

**Medical Ministry International** 

In addition to the twenty-one permanent MMI medical centers, the ministry sends over 1,500 international volunteers on medical projects around the world. MMI's medical initiatives are designed to provide quality medical care while also building medical capacity with volunteers and permanent staff. MMI Resident Training Programs provide talented international physicians the ability to expand their skills and then return to their home countries to install much needed medical capacity.

Founded in 1969, Medical Ministry International works in over 22 countries annually and provides care to more than 500,000 people. Working with more than 1,500 international volunteers and as well as over 1,500 national volunteers in the countries it serves, MMI targets a threefold strategy: medical and non-medical volunteers on short-term projects, permanent centers that provide sustained services to local communities, and residency training for international physicians. Volunteers include both medical professionals (Surgeons of every type, Primary Care, Dentists, Optometrists, Opticians, Nurses, Anesthesiologists, Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners, and more) as well as skilled craftsman (Carpenters, Plumbers, Engineers, Teachers, etc.) to help establish programs to bring aid to the poor. There is a place for anyone interested in serving on a project team. MMI is dedicated to optimizing the gifts that God provides to bring hope to those we seek to serve.

For more information visit www.mmint.org or contact (972) 727-7810

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