



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **SHIELD HEALTHCARE ANNOUNCES STORY CONTEST TO HONOR CAREGIVERS**

Valencia, CA – Shield Healthcare, a leading provider of medical supplies for care at home, is pleased to announce its 8<sup>th</sup> annual story contest on “What Makes Caregiving Rewarding?” designed to recognize and hear the voice of caregivers and home healthcare professionals. “Shield Healthcare understands that caregiving is a demanding job. A significant number of our customers are at-home family caregivers, tending to a loved one with a chronic medical condition. They unselfishly take on the challenge and responsibility of meeting the daily health and emotional needs of the person in their charge. Our story contest is a positive way to recognize and reward this important role,” said Matthew Zirkle, Shield Healthcare’s Director of Marketing. The contest runs through November 25, 2008 in celebration of National Family Caregiver’s Month.

Last year’s winners included a mother of a special needs child, a daughter caring for her mother diagnosed with Alzheimer’s Disease, and a woman caring for three family members with disabilities in her home. Winner Stella Smith wrote, “We look at other figures as role models and heroes. What about the caregivers? My mom is a Hero. My sister is a Hero. To me being a caregiver is being a HERO. What makes caregiving rewarding to me is the look on my sister and brother's faces when I walk through the door. They know I am there to care for them. Caregiving is my life.”

The top three story winners will receive \$1000 in American Express Gift Cheques and a 1-year subscription to *Today’s Caregiver Magazine*. The two runner-ups will also be awarded the magazine subscription and \$250 in

American Express Gift Cheques. All contest entries must be one-page, typed or hand-written and postmarked by November 25, 2008. Entries should be mailed to Shield Healthcare, Attn: Caring Solutions, 27911 Franklin Pkwy., Valencia, CA 91355 or emailed to [caring@shieldhealthcare.com](mailto:caring@shieldhealthcare.com). Full contest details are available on Shield's website at [www.shieldhealthcare.com](http://www.shieldhealthcare.com).

#### About Shield Healthcare

Since 1957, Shield Healthcare has been the industry leader focused on meeting the medical supply needs of families and caregivers at home. Shield Healthcare provides high quality disposable medical products including Incontinence, Urological, Ostomy, Enteral Nutrition and Diabetes supplies. In 2007, Shield Healthcare was granted formal accreditation status by the Community Health Accreditation Program's (CHAP) Board of Review signifying its commitment as a leader in providing superior products and service to the home healthcare market. Shield Healthcare operates six sales locations, serving California, Colorado, and Illinois.

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