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PORTRAIT OF ABUSE: AN AMERICAN EPIDEMIC
Domestic violence documentary premiere a success

Dallas, TX – Police officers, social workers, and health professionals gathered last Thursday and Friday for the Facing Family Violence Conference to address issues such as abuse trends, trauma intervention, and family roles. In addition to the conference, an exclusive, first-time showing of AMS Production Group’s film “Portrait of Abuse: An American Epidemic” premiered to an overwhelmingly positive response.

Partnering with Texas Health Resources, the largest hospital system in Texas, *Portrait of Abuse* released just in time for National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The film is a compelling look at abuse through a variety of perspectives. It features interviews with victims, abusers, doctors, nurses, shelter care advocates, social workers and prosecutors and offers solutions with a hopeful outlook to a situation of epidemic proportions. Of the premiere, Executive Producer Mark McGovern says, “Overall, if we can get people talking about domestic violence, we achieved a big first step in changing the future.” The reaction to the film had its effect according to Director Sara Ivey, “The film may have brought up painful memories for some viewers or empathy for others. I saw tears in many eyes when the lights came up.”

With both victims and advocates present at the premiere, the consensus was clear – “Portrait of Abuse” is an honest, yet uplifting perspective on the horrific epidemic that is domestic abuse. Mary R. Reeves, a nurse at Harris Methodist Hospital in Fort Worth calls it an “Excellent documentary. Very honest and forthcoming.” “Eye-opening and hopeful,” says victim advocate, Maria Flores-Alcinwunni. McGovern says, “We’re extremely grateful to the many women who have come forward to tell their story in this piece. Their courage can make a world of difference to the millions of families who are still too afraid or don’t know how to get away from the pain.”

In addition to *Portrait of Abuse*, AMS will soon release *Black History Uncovered* - a series of four untold stories from African American History; *Bodacious Boots* - a high spirited ode to the art and fashion of the cowboy boot; and *Stop the Presses* about the decline of American print journalism.

For more information on the film or to request an interview, please contact Tammy Nguyen Lee via phone at 214.646.9309 or visit www.PortraitofAbuse.com

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