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Lotsa Helping Hands Recognizes Its 1M Volunteers During National Volunteer Week

Wellesley, Mass. (April 18, 2012) – Lotsa Helping Hands is proud to support National Volunteer Week, a week-long community service effort dedicated to inspiring, recognizing, and encouraging community members to take action and make a difference. During National Volunteer Week, Lotsa Helping Hands is applauding its one million remarkable volunteers across the country and encouraging individuals to lend a hand through Lotsa.

National Volunteer Week, created by Points of Light Institute, is focused on taking action and encouraging individuals and their respective communities to be at the center of social change discovering and actively demonstrating their collective power to foster positive transformation. Lotsa Helping Hands recognizes the transformative value of community collaboration and volunteerism and is committed to helping build a world where everyone can give and receive help through the power of community. A no-cost resource, Lotsa helps volunteers provide caregivers with the gift of much needed help, emotional support, peace of mind, and the tools to better provide care by powering offline help online.

“National Volunteer Week is an ideal time to express our appreciation for each and every person who participates in Lotsa Helping Hands communities. Our service brings caregivers and volunteers together online – but without these extraordinary volunteers, caregivers and those they care for would likely not get the help and support they need,” said Hal Chapel, CEO and co-founder, Lotsa Helping Hands. “We’re thrilled our members are able to help some of the 65 million caregivers nationwide and find meaning in giving back to those in need.”

To date, volunteers have signed up for more than 3.3 million tasks to support a caregiver through 60,000 Lotsa Helping Hands communities in the United States. Lotsa communities enable volunteers to schedule meal deliveries, rides to appointments, personal visits and more through an interactive online community that includes a comprehensive Help Calendar.

An orthodox Jewish community in Potomac, Maryland came together to support a family with two young boys coping with the breast cancer diagnosis of their 41-year-old mother. A friend and neighbor learned about her friend’s diagnosis just hours before she was leaving for Israel. She quickly created the community, posted the family’s needs, and made other community members aware of the Lotsa Helping Hands community. Friends, family, and neighbors signed up to prepare and deliver Kosher food while the mother was undergoing surgery and months of chemotherapy. In addition, the Lotsa community signed up for play dates for the children, rides to appointments, and other household errands.

To learn about ways to lend a hand in your community, visit www.lotsahelpinghands.com.

About Lotsa Helping Hands

Lotsa Helping Hands powers online caring communities that help restore health and balance to caregivers’ lives. More than 65 million people serve as caregivers for loved ones with chronic disease or disability. The service brings together caregivers and volunteers through online communities that organize daily life during times of medical crisis or caregiver exhaustion in neighborhoods and communities worldwide. Caregivers benefit from the gifts of much needed help, emotional support, and peace of mind, while volunteers find meaning in giving back to those in need. To date, nearly one million members have lent a hand through a Lotsa Helping Hands community and more than 50 national nonprofit organizations partner with Lotsa to support caregivers. For more information about Lotsa Helping Hands, visit www.lotsahelpinghands.com.

About National Volunteer Week

Sponsored by Points of Light—National Volunteer Week was established in 1974 and has grown exponentially each subsequent year, with literally thousands of volunteer projects and special events scheduled throughout the week. With the third year anniversary of the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, the creation of the Volunteer Generation Fund and the resonant call to serve from the President, this year will be even more energizing and inspiring.

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