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For Immediate Release: Friendswood, Texas – 08/15/2010

LRC supports “Ride For Their Lives” for missing children

On Monday, August 16, 2010, at 9 AM the Laura Recovery Center will turn the keys to their Mobile Recovery Center (MRC) over to a representative of the “**Ride For Their Lives**” in support of the cross country bike ride to bring awareness to the cause of missing children. The MRC has been covered with posters of missing children with hopes of bringing these children home through the national attention that this bike ride will receive. The MRC will serve as the sag wagon for the month long bike ride, the “**Ride For Their Lives**”, following the two lead cyclists. Volunteer cyclists will join the lead riders on a 3,500-mile journey through 26 cities, from Rochester, N.Y. to Los Angeles, Calif. The awareness campaign, the “**Ride for Their Lives**”, seeks to increase public knowledge and to help advocate for laws that protect children and fight to eradicate predatory crimes nation wide. The ride begins on August 22.

The lead riders are:

Ed Smart, father of Elizabeth Smart, is a nationally recognized spokesperson for child protection, advocating for legislation and non-profit organizations that focus on the prevention and recovery of missing children. In 2002, his daughter, Elizabeth, age 14, was kidnapped (LRC organized the community search for Elizabeth) and was found alive nine months later.

Ahmad Rivazfar, founder of the “Ride for Their Lives”, is a Rochester native and the father of six children. In 1988, two of his daughters, ages 8 and 6, were abducted, raped and left to die in the woods. 8 year old Sayeh, survived; Sara, age 6, did not. Rivazfar is now an active volunteer leader in his community for the cause for protecting and recovering children from abduction and abuse.

Gay Smither, Co-Founder of the LRC, is also a member of the Surviving Parents Coalition (SPC) which is sponsoring the “**Ride For Their Lives**”. Gay will represent the SPC as ambassador for the city stops in Denver, CO September 6 and Grand Junction, CO September 8. For more information about “Ride for Their Lives” visit www.RideforTheirLives.com and the Surviving Parents Coalition www.spcoalition.org



The Laura Recovery Center is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, that was founded in Laura Smither's memory. The Center focuses on Education, Search, and Prevention in the area of missing children, has offered free abduction prevention programs to over 200,000 children throughout the greater Houston area, worked with approximately 1,450 families with missing loved ones, and has organized 95 community searches for abducted children nationwide. The Center trains law enforcement at the Houston Police Department training academy and other agencies in Texas, and distributes educational materials and child ID kits.

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