



MDA TELETHON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Bob Mackle
Vice President - Public Information
(520) 529-5317
bobmackle@mdausa.org

**ACOSTA CONTRIBUTES \$2.9 MILLION
TO FIGHT MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY**

LAS VEGAS, Sept. 04, 2006 — Acosta, based in Jacksonville, Fla., presented contribution checks representing its year-round fund-raising efforts for the Muscular Dystrophy Association during MDA's 41st annual Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon Sept. 3-4.

Representatives from Acosta delivered contributions of \$2.9 Million to MDA National Chairman Jerry Lewis and Telethon co-hosts during the legendary 21½-hour fund-raising broadcast. The Telethon reached some 50 million viewers via 190 MDA "Love Network" television stations and was seen worldwide, thanks to RealNetworks, on the Internet.

The funds raised by Acosta are in addition to the final total in pledges and contributions received from the public during the Telethon.

Gary Chartrand, Acosta chairman and chief executive officer, and Rick Ard, Acosta senior vice president/Winn Dixie team leader, represented the company on the Telethon broadcast and presented donations gathered year-round. Chartrand is an MDA national vice

– More –

ACOSTA Contributes to MDA/ Page 2

president. WPXC in Jacksonville covered the presentation live. The Telethon originated from the South Coast Hotel in Las Vegas.

“I deeply appreciate the fund-raising efforts of the people at Acosta. Their heartfelt assistance will fuel MDA’s fight against muscular dystrophy,” Lewis said.

“Money raised by Acosta will help MDA continue to advance its research, service and information programs, enabling us to bring greater help and hope to the families MDA serves.”

Acosta has been an MDA national sponsor for 21 years. Its retail customers and manufacture clients raise money for MDA through the Aisles of Smiles campaigns conducted in supermarkets and other retail stores.

Acosta is the leading sales, marketing and service company in North America for manufacturers in the consumer packaged goods industry. Acosta employs over 11,000 associates in over 70 locations in the United States and Canada.

“Every year we look forward to helping MDA and its families,” said Chartrand. “We’re proud to be part of MDA’s fight against muscular dystrophy and their efforts that will soon see a cure for muscle-wasting diseases.”

MDA is a voluntary health organization working to defeat more than 40 neuromuscular diseases through programs of worldwide research, comprehensive services and far-reaching professional and public health education. MDA maintains 235 clinics nationwide for adults and children affected by neuromuscular diseases, including three clinics in Jacksonville, Fla.

The Association’s programs are funded almost entirely by individual contributors.

Photos of Gary and Rick as they appeared on the Telethon follow on the next page.



Acosta Chairman and CEO Gary Chartrand praised Acosta associates for their efforts in raising \$2.9 million to help fight muscular dystrophy. Above, he talks with Jerry Lewis during the annual Labor Day MDA Telethon, September 3-4, 2006.



Acosta Senior Vice President/Winn Dixie Team Leader Rick Ard presented Telethon co-host comedian Norm Crosby a check to MDA from Acosta associates during the 2006 annual MDA Telethon.