

INCLUDING INTERNATIONAL VENTILATOR USERS NETWORK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Brian Tiburzi, 314-534-0475

REMEMBER POLIO. GET VACCINATED.

On behalf of the estimated 500,0000 survivors of America's polio epidemics of the 1940s and 1950s, Post-Polio Health International (PHI) strongly encourages all public health efforts for maintaining high rates of vaccination against polio, measles and other highly contagious and potentially disabling or deadly diseases.

Personal <u>testimonials</u> from polio survivors recount how their lives were changed by developing a disease that came to be preventable by vaccination.

"PHI's primary mission is assisting survivors of paralytic polio and home ventilator users through education, research, networking and advocacy," said Saul Morse, polio survivor and president of the PHI Board of Directors. "But PHI is also committed to persuading others about the importance of vaccination to avoid or limit negative health or severe life changing impacts."

PHI Executive Director Brian Tiburzi added that, "PHI, as the nation's preeminent voice on poliorelated matters, is ready and willing to actively support campaigns to raise public awareness about the importance of vaccinations."

For more information about PHI and its work, go to http://www.post-polio.org.