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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### MAY IS STROKE AWARENESS MONTH "STROKE HERO" VALERIE GREENE SPEAKS OUT NATIONALLY "A story of courage, determination and success"

(Orlando, Fla.) – May is National Stroke Awareness Month and **Valerie Greene**, a national spokesperson for the **American Heart Association** and **American Stroke Association** is speaking out nationally on stroke awareness.

At the young age of 31, **Greene** was a healthy, athletic and successful business owner until a massive stroke paralyzed the left side of her body. Losing most of her hearing, doctors told her it was unlikely that she would walk or talk again. She was lucky to be alive.

Sheer determination propelled her out of her wheelchair and into a new life learning once more how to walk and communicate, and become a professional speaker and advocate of stroke awareness. After 10 years of rehabilitation, two books, a marathon, and hundreds of speaking engagements and media interviews, **Valerie Greene** is establishing a foundation to help victims of stroke and is successfully spreading stroke awareness to crowds of thousands throughout the country. Shows like **Larry King Live** have recognized her and many celebrities and dignitaries including Michael J. Fox and Kirk Douglas applauded her ongoing crusade to educate others about stroke and their own inner strength.

According to the **American Stroke Association**, a division of the **American Heart Association**, stroke is the third leading cause of death and the leading cause of adult disability. About 700,000 Americans suffer a new or recurrent stroke each year, and approximately every 45 seconds someone in America has a stroke.

**Valerie Greene** is available for media appearances and interviews. For more information and to schedule an interview, contact Jo Maldonado at 407-869-1145.

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