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For immediate release: Tuesday, August 18, 2009

Rapiers donate \$25K matching grant to help keep Project MEND afloat

**Donations down more than 50% this year;
requests for services have skyrocketed**

San Antonio, Texas – WellMed Chairman and CEO Dr. George Rapier and his wife Kym donated \$25,000 to Project MEND today to help keep the agency's doors open.

With donations down more than 50 percent, Project MEND faces a severe financial crisis.

The non-profit agency helps low-income people with disabilities obtain medical equipment and financial support for the purchase of specialized, fitted devices, prosthetic and orthotic devices, and diabetic shoes. It is the only agency of its kind in Texas. It provides services to children, adults and seniors in need. Its service area currently reaches clients in San Antonio and the Coastal Bend regions.

So far this year, more than 1,400 people have been helped by Project MEND, far more than at the same time last year.

In addition to their donation, Dr. Rapier has agreed to place donation boxes in each of WellMed's 21 clinics in the Greater San Antonio area. Donations can also be mailed to Project MEND, 1201 Austin St, San Antonio, TX 78208. For more information, go to www.projectmend.org or call (210) 223-6363.

WellMed serves more than 80,000 patients and insured members, including 34,000 seniors in the San Antonio area.

WellMed Medical Management is a diversified healthcare company and health plan provider serving more than 80,000 patients and insured members, mostly Medicare-eligible seniors in Texas, Florida, Arkansas and New Mexico. WellMed is an industry leader in medical risk management, highly effective disease management and chronic care programs, healthcare delivery services, and more.

WellMed is South Texas' largest physician-owned practice management company, specializing in senior health care since 1990. With 30 medical clinics in Texas and Florida, the vision of the healthcare company and insurance provider is to change the face of healthcare delivery for seniors.