

CU SoCal Member Relays for 24-Hours at American Cancer Society's *Relay for Life*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michelle Hunter

Senior Vice President, Marketing & Development

714.671.2746

MHunter@CUSoCal.org

WHITTIER, CA (July 21, 2008) -- During the month of June, Credit Union of Southern California (CU SoCal) participated in two *Relay for Life* events, adopting the team name "CU SoCal's Helping Hands." The American Cancer Society's *Relay for Life* is a 24-hour walk event that helps raise awareness and funds to find a cure for cancer. Through sponsorship and team participation efforts, CU SoCal's Helping Hands raised over \$12,400. There were 128 participants consisting of employees', friends and family that joined CU SoCal's team to help raise funds and awareness at the *Relay* events in Whittier and Fullerton.

But among these statistics, there was an even bigger story. Chris Schotborgh, a CU SoCal Member from Whittier--recently visited CU SoCal's Whittier branch to apply for a personal loan to pay for taxes on a vehicle he had won from a game show. While there, he heard about the upcoming *Relay for Life* and how CU SoCal was participating. Mr. Schotborgh decided to join CU SoCal's team in Fullerton. Chris, now 20 years old, was diagnosed with Lymphoma cancer at age 18. Although cured within a short time, cancer forever changed his life.

At the *Relay for Life* of Fullerton, Mr. Schotborgh began the "survivor lap" at 9 a.m. Mr. Schotborgh only took occasional breaks and didn't stop walking until the next day at the closing ceremony. His family came out to support him as well as other *relayers* during the event. He walked a total of 43 miles in 24 hours.

"I kept walking for hours and hours until the next morning when I walked the whole 24 hours. I wanted to show those struggling with cancer that even though being cured seems impossible, and sometimes you want to give up, that if you have faith and you struggle hard, you can achieve anything," – Chris Schotborgh mentions.

"Mr. Schotborgh's perseverance, dedication and determination on the track and in life create such an inspiring and motivating attitude in all of us. He set an example that many of us would have struggled with. He's an extraordinary young man," says Dave Gunderson, CEO of CU SoCal.

About ACS Relay for Life

"*Relay For Life*" is an overnight team event that raises awareness of cancer in the community and also raises funds for cancer research as well as enables the American Cancer Society to provide numerous services to cancer patients. Throughout *Relay For Life*, teams of friends, families and co-workers commit to keeping at least one member walking or running on the track during the entire 24-hour event. Cancer survivors are honored as they kick off the event by walking the first lap. For more information about *Relay For Life*, visit relayforlife.org.

About Credit Union of Southern California (CU SoCal)

With over \$500 million in assets, CU SoCal is ranked the 19th largest credit union in Los Angeles County. Founded in 1954, CU SoCal is dedicated to providing its more than 43,000 Member-Owners with World-Class Service, competitive products and convenience. Membership is available to those who live, work, attend school or worship in Orange County, the San Gabriel Valley and the cities in between. Visit www.CUSoCal.org or call (866) CU SoCal for more information.

###