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media alert

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April is Autism Awareness Month

Joni and Friends Provides Spokespersons and TV Programs to Inform and Educate about Autism

WHAT: Disability advocates Steve Bundy, director of the JAF Christian Institute on Disability; Doug Mazza, president and COO of Joni and Friends; and Pat Verbal, director of curriculum development for the JAF Christian Institute on Disability, are available for interviews regarding autism and the Joni and Friends TV series, "Making Sense of Autism."

While much about autism remains a mystery, Joni and Friends helps dispel some of the myths surrounding this condition. With autism diagnoses on the rise, Joni and Friends would like to offer both review copies of the DVD and interviews with advocates to help inform and educate audiences about autism.

WHO: **Doug Mazza** President and COO of Joni and Friends, Mazza has helped the ministry to expand greatly in recent years, serving thousands more individuals with disabilities every year. He also speaks as the father of a severely disabled son.

Steve Bundy Director of the JAF Christian Institute on Disability, Bundy parents a son with autism. Even before his son's birth he was involved in ministry to the disability community, beginning the "In His Image" ministry at his church in Pasadena.

Pat Verbal Director of Curriculum Development for the Joni and Friends Christian Institute on Disability, Verbal is an author, speaker and consultant in the area of special needs ministry and is a featured columnist for "Children's Ministry Magazine" and "Teach Kids."

**WHEN &
WHERE:**

By appointment via phone and in studio from Los Angeles

DETAILS:

To request an interview, please contact Melany Ethridge at melany@alarryross.com or 972.267.1111.