



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VOICES FOR HUMANITY HITS THE STREETS WITH “HOPE DEALER” VJ SMITH

Los Angeles, CA – October 9, 2018 – Scientology Network’s VOICES FOR HUMANITY, the weekly series presenting heroic change-makers from a variety of faiths, cultures and nations, working to uplift their communities, announces a new episode featuring peace activist, *V.J. Smith*, on October 10, 2018.

VOICES FOR HUMANITY airs Wednesdays at 8 p.m. ET/PT on Scientology Network.

Minnesota’s crime rate is 88% higher than the national average. Nearly half the homeless population in the state is under 21. On the drug and gang infested streets of Minneapolis, V.J. Smith is known as the “Hope Dealer.” Armed only with his message that it is possible to “come from nothing and be something,” and a relentless determination to help others, V.J. is reducing crime in the city.

ABOUT V.J. SMITH

V.J. Smith grew up on the streets as a foster youth and was introduced to organized crime at an early age. Despite not having a father or strong male role model, he turned his life around as an adult. V.J.’s passion is mentoring and showing young people who are headed in the wrong direction, that they can turn their lives around just like he did. Today, V.J. spends hours on the streets every week bringing positive, proactive advice and support to troubled youth. He is an inspiration to many young adults who were once destined to be homeless or incarcerated.

V.J. Smith serves as the National President and Executive Director of MAD DADS, a coalition of African-American men and parents who are fed up with gang violence and illegal drugs and are reclaiming their neighborhoods one child at a time.

The Scientology Network debuted on March 12, 2018. Since launching, the Scientology Network has been viewed in 237 countries and territories worldwide in 17 languages. Satisfying the curiosity of people about Scientology, the network takes viewers across six continents, spotlighting the everyday lives of Scientologists; showing the Church as a global organization; and presenting its social betterment programs that have touched the lives of millions worldwide. The network also showcases documentaries by Independent filmmakers who represent a cross section of cultures and faiths, but share a common purpose of uplifting communities.

Broadcast from Scientology Media Productions, the Church's global media center in Los Angeles, the Scientology Network can be streamed at scientology.tv and is available through satellite television, mobile apps and via the Roku, Amazon Fire and Apple TV platforms.

CONTACT:

Media Relations

(323) 960-3500

mediarelations@churchofscientology.net

###