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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



AACF Celebrates 65 Years Serving the Automotive Aftermarket Community

Sacramento, Calif. – March 26, 2024– [The Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation \(AACF\)](#), a 501c3 supporting people in the automotive aftermarket industry and their families during the hardest moments of their lives, is thrilled to recognize 2024 as the year the organization celebrates its 65th anniversary, a testament to decades of heartfelt assistance to families within the automotive aftermarket sector. Originally established in 1959 as AFFTA, AACF owes its inception to the visionary spirit of Don Schlenger, a beloved figure in the automotive aftermarket industry.

Driven by a deep desire to lend a helping hand, Schlenger, alongside fellow automotive aftermarket industry pioneers, set out on a mission to provide financial aid to employees and their bereaved spouses. This act of compassion ignited a powerful movement, shaping AACF into a beacon of hope for countless families enduring hardship.

Joel Ayres, AACF's Executive Director, shared his appreciation, stating, "I want to thank and honor our dedicated volunteer board, many of whom have generously given their time for years helping AACF grow and prosper. These industry volunteers embody the spirit of compassion that defines our organization." Ayres went on to say, "AACF is launching a commemorative fundraiser. These funds will go directly towards supporting the individuals employed in the automotive aftermarket industry who are facing adversity, medical emergency, or catastrophic life changing event. AACF will be announcing more details about this commemorative fundraiser April 1st."

As AACF marks its 65th Anniversary, we encourage you to explore our website [[AftermarketCharity.org](#)] to discover more about our mission and the people we help.

For more information or to get involved, contact Joel Ayres at Joel@AftermarketCharity.org.

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About the Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation (AACF)

The Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation (AACF) has been helping aftermarket families turn tragedy into triumph since 1959. Like the industry, AACF is driven by passion and devoted to family. It's tough to ask for help, but when someone in the aftermarket family faces profound circumstances, AACF is there when it seems like there's nowhere else to turn. As a nonprofit, this is accomplished through the support of generous donors, awareness partners and dedicated volunteers. To learn more, visit www.AftermarketCharity.org.