

AlphaNet Supports Alpha-1 Association to Ensure Continued Community Service

The Alpha-1 Association, with the support of AlphaNet, will continue its commitment to serving the Alpha-1 Community into the future.

March 7, 2003 – An agreement was executed today that acknowledges the valuable contributions made by the Alpha-1 Association to the Alpha-1 Community by ensuring that the Association is equipped to continue its history of patient and family services. AlphaNet’s financial and organizational support will allow the Association to immediately activate information and referral services including its toll free number and to reinvigorate the support group network and peer guide program. “The Association’s leadership is very pleased with the important contribution AlphaNet is making to guarantee that patients receive the support they need to improve their quality of life,” said John Morton, Chair Alpha-1 Association Board of Directors.

The Alpha-1 Association’s Board of Directors will continue to provide leadership and guidance as existing programs are reviewed and new programs are implemented. The Association’s committees will be called upon to lend a strong consumer voice for patient and family services. Both AlphaNet and the Alpha-1 Association will remain separate and distinct legal entities.

“The Alpha-1 Association’s membership-based patient service organization is a valuable resource in providing information and support to individuals living with Alpha-1,” stated Bob Barrett, CEO of AlphaNet.

The Alpha-1 Association and AlphaNet look forward to announcing plans to hold Regional Alpha-1 Education Days and a National Conference to provide support for newly diagnosed individuals and those already living with Alpha-1.

About the Alpha-1 Association:

The Alpha-1 Association is a member-based nonprofit organization founded over 10 years ago to identify those affected by Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency (Alpha-1) and to improve the quality of their lives through support, education, advocacy, and research. The Association maintains a toll free telephone number, Internet-based education and referral, a support group network and coordinates grass roots advocacy. For more information call 1-800-521-3025, email info@alpha1.org, or visit www.alpha1.org.

About AlphaNet:

AlphaNet is a not-for-profit health management company established in 1995 to provide comprehensive services exclusively to the Alpha-1 community. The goal of AlphaNet is to empower Alphas to be active participants in their own health care management by promoting greater independence and control, sharing experience and the latest developments regarding research and treatment practices and by creating new standards in health care, funding compassionate care and employing Alphas to serve Alphas. To enhance the goals of AlphaNet, revenue is directed at improving the lives of individuals living with Alpha-1 through support of research and community outreach programs. For more information visit www.alphanet.org