

**Oticon Hearing Foundation and American Academy of Audiology Foundation
Invite Audiologists to Apply for Project Amazon**

Foundations Will Sponsor Travel, Expenses for Two Practitioners Willing to Donate Time and Expertise

SOMERSET, NJ March 20 – This fall, the Oticon Hearing Foundation, in partnership with the American Academy of Audiology Foundation (AAAF), will underwrite the cost for two audiologists to join a unique humanitarian mission to remote riverfront communities near Parintins, Brazil. The practitioners selected for Project Amazon will work side-by-side with staff from the Oticon Clinic in Parintins. The non-profit clinic is a service of the Viva o Som Foundation, a group dedicated to securing financial and human resources to improve the quality of life of people in Brazil's most impoverished communities.

The collaborative expedition is part of the Foundations for Progress™ initiatives of the Oticon Hearing Foundation that coordinate and promote humanitarian relief efforts to benefit individuals with hearing loss in communities around the world. Through Project Amazon, Foundations for Progress aims to enable volunteer audiologists to provide hearing care to children and adults from more than 300 local communities that surround Parintins. Currently, these communities offer limited or no basic health or welfare services.

Audiologists and audiology students who have completed at least two years in an AuD program may submit an application to join Project Amazon. Applications will be reviewed by a committee comprised of AAA Foundation and Oticon Hearing Foundation representatives; the selected practitioners and students will be notified in August.

In addition to helping to underwrite the travel and expenses of the selected audiologists, the Oticon Hearing Foundation will supply the team with hearing instruments and batteries for their mission. The Foundation plans to sustain the good works of the volunteers with donations of hearing instruments and other resources throughout the year.

Application of Interest forms for Project Amazon will be available at the Oticon Hearing Foundation exhibit and American Academy of Audiology Foundation booth at 2012 AudiologyNOW! Application information will also be online at oticonhearingfoundation.org and audiologyfoundation.org beginning April 15.