BILL CLINTON’S BOOK ON CITIZEN ACTIVISM TO BE PUBLISHED BY KNOPF THIS SEPTEMBER

NEW YORK, NY – Former President Bill Clinton has written a book about citizen activism and public service that will be published in September by Alfred A. Knopf. The announcement was made today by Sonny Mehta, Knopf’s Chairman and Editor in Chief.

GIVING: How Each of Us Can Change the World is an inspiring look at how individual endeavors can save lives and solve problems, and it offers compelling examples of both citizen and corporate activism at work in the world today. The book will go on sale nationwide September 4 with a first printing of 750,000 copies. It will be published simultaneously as an ebook, as a Large Print Edition, and as a Random House Audiobook, read by the author. Additionally, a portion of President Clinton’s proceeds from the book will be donated to charities and nonprofits that are doing their part to change the world.

“I’ve done my best in this book to demonstrate what I’ve seen firsthand through my Foundation’s work in Africa and around the world: that all kinds of giving can make a profoundly positive difference,” said President Clinton. “The amount of good that so many individuals and NGOs (nongovernmental organizations) have been able to do has proven to me that almost everyone—regardless of income, available time, age, and skills—can do something useful for others and, in the process, strengthen the fabric of our shared humanity.”

GIVING highlights the work of a number of extraordinary people and organizations—some famous, as well as many private citizens whom readers will be hearing about for the first time—all of whom represent a global floodtide of nongovernmental nonprofit activity. Their remarkable stories suggest that the act of giving takes many forms, and it emphasizes that offerings of time, skills, objects, and ideas can be just as important as contributions of money.
Clinton writes about the life-changing aspect of giving—of men and women who traded in their corporate careers, and of the fulfillment they now experience through their new efforts and associations. He also examines, in a chapter on organizing markets for the public good, progressive companies that do good work: going green; opening markets for the under-served in disadvantaged communities; hiring people who were once on welfare; and promoting fair wages and decent working conditions for all. Clinton addresses the role of government, suggesting that when it works well, citizen service can reinforce and supplement its efforts; when it doesn’t, citizens need to harness time, money, knowledge, and skills in an effort to change, improve, or protect government policy. He outlines what we as individuals can do, the steps we can all take, how much we should consider giving, and why our giving is so important.

“Bill Clinton’s actions and deeds during his post-presidential years, both directly and through his foundation, have had an extraordinary impact on the lives of millions,” said Mehta. “His new book suggests that all of us can have a profound influence on the lives of others through acts of giving. I believe this book has the power to change both our outlook and our communities, and it will make a real contribution towards turning the world into a better place.”

Clinton has committed to a national author tour at the time of publication.

President Clinton’s previous book, My Life, was published by Knopf in 2004. It remains one of the bestselling memoirs of all time.

Alfred A. Knopf is the flagship imprint of the Knopf Publishing Group, which is a division of Random House, Inc., whose parent company is Bertelsmann AG, the international media company. For more information about Alfred A. Knopf, visit our website at http://www.aaknopf.com

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GIVING: How Each of Us Can Change the World
by Bill Clinton
On-sale date: September 4, 2007
First Printing: 750,000 copies
Also available simultaneously in Audio and Large Print from Random House.
(Jacket available upon request)

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