



**PRESS RELEASE**

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## Spread Positivity Campaign Brings NASA Chief Astronaut to Brazil for Series of Inspirational Events

### **NASA ASTRONAUT AND NAVY SEAL CHRIS CASSIDY TO SPEAK WITH STUDENTS, COMMUNITIES AND BUSINESS LEADERS**

**Boston – November 10, 2016.** Spread Positivity, a nonprofit campaign with a goal as simple as its name, announced today that it has organized a series of events in Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil with NASA Chief Astronaut and U. S. Navy SEAL, Capt. Chris Cassidy, November 19-24th.

“The goal of the trip is to inspire students and adults alike, and to share the excitement of space exploration,” said Cassidy. “We are thrilled to be doing this in Brazil since exploring outer space—and taking care of our spaceship, Earth—is of critical importance to not only the U.S., but to all nations, and humankind in general.”

The series of events will reach students, business leaders, and those less fortunate. The cornerstone of Cassidy’s trip will be a large public event at Rio de Janeiro’s new Museum of Tomorrow on November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5pm. Another important stop will be in Rocinha, Rio’s largest favela slum, with over 70,000 residents, where Cassidy will speak with students and community members at the Biblioteca Parque da Rocinha.

Additional highlights of his time in Brazil include a large public talk at Catavento science museum, Sao Paulo’s most visited museum; meeting students at the American School of Rio de Janeiro; and events with educational non-profits, Fundacao Estudar and Fundacao Lemann; Fazenda da Toca, a large-scale organic agroforestry farm in Sao Paulo state; and SITAWI, a social interest organization which mobilizes “Financing for Good”.

Cassidy served ten years as a U.S. Navy SEAL before joining NASA in May 2004. As an astronaut, he became the 500<sup>th</sup> human to fly in space when he spent 16 days in orbit on Space Shuttle mission STS-127. He then spent another six months in space aboard the International Space Station on Expedition 35/36. He completed six spacewalks, totaling more than 31 hours, and accumulated 182 days in space. In July 2016 he became NASA’s 14<sup>th</sup> Chief Astronaut.

### **About Spread Positivity**

Spread Positivity is a nonprofit campaign to highlight the power of real-world human interaction, and to encourage people to try in their daily lives to be positive, kind, humble, grateful, empathetic, and actively seek simple opportunities to help others without wanting anything in return.