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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Silicon Valley, CA – San Jose City Hall Rotunda will be the venue for the local World AIDS Day Civic Ceremony on Monday December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008 at 6:30 PM. This event will connect Silicon Valley to similar events around the globe, and is a key opportunity to raise further awareness in our communities about the state of the pandemic and critical next steps that must be taken to Stop AIDS.

2008 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World AIDS Day. Much has changed in that time, and the disease gives new challenges as humanity learns to live with this virus and its destructive force. The international theme of leadership will be at the core of the local events. San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed is scheduled to welcome the community to the Rotunda, and will be joined by County Board Member Ken Yeager and San Jose City Council member Sam Liccardo at the civic ceremony. In addition, previous winners of the Leslie David Burgess Lifetime Achievement Award have been invited to reveal local leadership in the fields of HIV/AIDS prevention and care.

Supported by these local and national community leaders: AIDS Coalition Silicon Valley, Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center, Celebration of Faith, San Jose, Council of Churches of Santa Clara County, Disability Advisory Commission - City of San Jose, The Health Trust, HIV/AIDS Prevention & Control Program - County of Santa Clara, Metropolitan Community Church San Jose, Names Project Foundation.

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