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A Strategic Initiative for HIV/AIDS Care & Prevention for the Sacramento Area

HIV is still having a significant impact in many communities in the United States and Sacramento is no exception. While medical treatments have dramatically decreased the death rate for HIV/AIDS, persistent levels of new infection, needless death, insufficient access to care, and disturbing racial disparities still exist. Too many people, mostly our poor and disadvantaged, don't receive the benefits of effective treatment and prevention.

As the leading HIV/AIDS provider in the Sacramento area, CARES has decided to mark the occasion of its 20th Anniversary with bold action to provide leadership that could serve as a model for the rest of the nation. Our 20th Anniversary celebration is the perfect opportunity to unveil ***A Strategic Initiative for HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention*** in the Sacramento area for the next 5 years developed by government, community, business, faith, school, and healthcare leaders with clear objectives, timelines and identified responsibilities.

The development of the ***Strategic Initiative for HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention*** will take over six months and will involve a series of meetings involving hundreds of people. The plan will be unveiled in June of 2009 at a gala celebration with state and local dignitaries and will merit significant press coverage.

To develop this plan, five major topics will be addressed by working committees, which will address the following topics:

- **Getting People to Know Their HIV Status**
- **Reducing New Infections**
- **Insuring Sustainability of Services**
- **Building a Compassionate Community**
- **Improving Health Outcomes for People with HIV/AIDS**

Members of these five committees will constitute the membership of the ***Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention*** Advisory Board. Invitations for subcommittee and advisory board membership will be sent to at least 100 area organizations. The subcommittees will meet three times and provide recommendations to the Steering Committee for inclusion in the final plan. Deliverables will include goals, indicators of success and a work plan to support the goals.