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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **BLACK, HISPANIC AND ASIAN & PACIFIC AMERICAN CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS LEADERS TO MEET WITH AIDS ACTIVISTS**

Campaign to End AIDS caravans arrive in Washington to demand more urgent responses to global and domestic crises

Washington, DC – Leadership of the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus will join AIDS activists from the Campaign to End AIDS in a rally in front of the west side of the Capitol Building on Tuesday, November 8 at 8:30 a.m. EST. Rep. Donna M. Christensen (D-VI), Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust is introducing a congressional resolution to support the Campaign and its goals, which is being co-sponsored by Rep. Hilda Solis (D-CA), Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus's Health Task Force, Rep. Michael Honda (D-CA), Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus and Rep. Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-Guam). Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus's Health Task Force. Rep. Christensen states, "Like the Campaign says, we have the tools and the knowledge to accomplish this goal. Now all we need is the heart and political will."

Hundreds of activists from the Campaign to End AIDS, a new national grassroots movement supported by AIDS and community groups and individuals across the country, are traveling in caravans and on foot from across the nation to meet with members of Congress during a November 8 Advocacy Day as part of four Days of Action. Campaign demands include a call to reauthorize and fully fund the Ryan White CARE Act, keep Medicaid strong, strengthen the global fight against AIDS, and restore and revive effective, science-based HIV prevention worldwide. Rep. Bordallo asserts, "A strong and united response from the medical and government communities is essential to ending the AIDS epidemic."

"My community is disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS and so I am fully supportive of the Campaign to End AIDS," says Rep. Solis. "We need more champions in the Congress who support an end to this horrible epidemic." Rep. Honda adds, "CAPAC unites with the CBC and CHC to call for an adequate federal response to the AIDS epidemic here and abroad."

Advocacy Day participants are slated to meet with their members of Congress and with key policymakers from the Bush Administration, including the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Other Campaign to End AIDS Days of Action activities included a March and Rally to Anacostia Park on November 5 and a Youth March and Rally on November 6. For more information on the Campaign to End AIDS visit [www.C2EA.org](http://www.C2EA.org).