
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA



PROCLAMATION

This year marks the twentieth commemoration of World AIDS Day, and today, California proudly unites with many around the globe in raising awareness of this devastating disease. By utilizing prevention measures, support services and HIV testing, as well as remembering those who have lost their lives to HIV/AIDS, we can make a difference and change the course of this pandemic.

The California Department of Public Health estimates that 5,000 to 7,000 Californians contract HIV each year. As of September 2008, almost 96,000 individuals are living with HIV/AIDS in our state, and more than 86,000 have died from this disease since 1981. These figures must serve as a call to action for us.

This year's theme, "Leadership: Stop AIDS. Keep the Promise," urges individuals to fight this illness. By collaborating with health departments, community organizations, universities and other groups, our Golden State is working to increase HIV/AIDS screenings, ensure adequate care and educational resources and create a supportive environment for those living with HIV/AIDS.

I encourage all Californians to join me in spreading knowledge and upholding our commitment to those living with this infection. Together, we can make great strides in the battle against HIV/AIDS.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim December 1, 2008, as "California AIDS Day."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 21st day of November 2008.



Handwritten signature of Arnold Schwarzenegger in dark ink.

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor of California

ATTEST:

Handwritten signature of Debra Bowen in dark ink.

DEBRA BOWEN
Secretary of State