



THE AIDS INSTITUTE

For Immediate Release: 12.14.07

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**THE AIDS INSTITUTE ELECTS BOARD OFFICERS  
AND WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS**  
*Nationally Known Clergy Join the Board*

**WASHINGTON, DC** – The AIDS Institute, a national public policy research, advocacy, and education organization, announced yesterday the election of new Board officers and welcomed two clergy to the board recognized for their efforts in HIV/AIDS.

At its annual meeting, the Board of Directors elected **Dr. Cesar Caceres** of Washington, DC, as President. Dr. Caceres has practiced clinical medicine since 1970 and has had a large HIV/AIDS practice since 1982. A cardiologist by training, he began treating AIDS in 1982 after identifying the first AIDS case in Washington, DC. A native of Honduras, Dr. Caceres, prior to private practice, served on the medical faculties of George Washington University and the University of Maryland. He also served as the Director of the Medical Systems Development Laboratory, U.S. Public Health Service, for ten years. During his medical career, Dr. Caceres has published nine books and authored over 100 articles. In 1985, he published an editorial in the Wall Street Journal that brought national attention to the relationship between drug use and AIDS. He has served as president and in other leadership roles in several national and international medical organizations. Reflecting on his election as Board President of The AIDS Institute, Dr. Caceres said: “Since the early 1980s my medical practice has included the care and treatment of people living with HIV/AIDS. I am honored to be elected President of the board of The AIDS Institute and look forward to the opportunity to do more in the fight against AIDS and related problems. In particular, I hope to move evidence-based prevention forward. The AIDS Institute has been a leader in the public policy arena, and we will continue to push the envelope, nationally and internationally, pursuing social change and justice in the provision of adequate prevention services, healthcare, and social support for all.”

**Marylin Merida** of Tampa, Florida, outgoing Board President, has served as President for the past six years and will remain on the board as Immediate Past President. Ms. Merida said: “The organization will continue to progress and move forward under the new and distinct leadership of Dr. Caceres. It has been a great pleasure and an honor serving as President of The AIDS Institute and working very closely with Dr. Gene Copello, the Executive Director.”

Also elected at the annual Board meeting were: **Jeanne White-Ginder**, mother of Ryan White, of Leesburg, Florida, as Vice President; **Ivy Turnbull** of New York City as Secretary; **Lew Sibert** of Tampa, Florida, as Treasurer; and **Michael King** of Anchorage, Alaska as At-Large Executive Committee Member.

The Board also welcomed two new members, both clergy recognized for their work in HIV/AIDS. The **Reverend Dr. Rick Warren** of Lake Forest, California, and the **Reverend Edwin Sanders** of Nashville, Tennessee, were each elected to two-year terms on the Board of Directors.

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Of the officer elections and new members, Dr. Gene Copello, Executive Director of The AIDS Institute, said: “I want to congratulate the new officers and welcome our two new members. I am looking forward to working closely with Dr. Caceres and all the board in moving our mission forward and continuing to make our contribution to addressing the HIV pandemic, Hepatitis, TB, and malaria. As a public policy leader, The AIDS Institute is committed to changing social systems through research analysis, advocacy, and education, so our communities, in the United States and abroad, can more adequately provide prevention, care, and treatment.”

The newly elected officers and members join the following Board members: Alicia Bunton (Chicago, Illinois), Jon Berliner (Honolulu, Hawaii), Bob Sullivan (Reno, Nevada), Valerie Mincey (Panama City, Florida), Dr. David Reznik (Atlanta, Georgia), Selvy Hall (Detroit, Michigan), David Miller (New York, New York), William Schuyler (Alexandria, Virginia), Marie Kirk (Albuquerque, New Mexico), and Peter Ralin, (Denver, Colorado). The Institute also expresses its appreciation to its Board Advisors: Dr. David Holtgrave (Baltimore, Maryland) and Deloris Dockrey (Newark, New Jersey).

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*For more information and to become involved in AIDS advocacy work, please contact  
The AIDS Institute at: (202) 835-8373, or by email at: [Info@theaidsinstitute.org](mailto:Info@theaidsinstitute.org) or [www.TheAIDSInstitute.org](http://www.TheAIDSInstitute.org)*

*The AIDS Institute is a national nonprofit agency that promotes action for social change  
through public policy research, advocacy and education.*