



THE AIDS INSTITUTE

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**THE AIDS INSTITUTE RECOGNIZES
THE ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL AIDS CANDLELIGHT MEMORIAL
THE LARGEST GLOBAL GRASSROOTS AIDS EVENT**

Washington, DC – On Sunday May 18, 2008, the International AIDS Candlelight Memorial will be held in more than 100 countries across our globe, making it the largest grassroots AIDS event ever held. The annual event, coordinated by the Global Health Council, commemorates the lives lost to AIDS, demonstrates support for people living with HIV/AIDS, and mobilizes community-based responses to HIV/AIDS.

The 2008 opening ceremony will be co-hosted by the Global Health Council and MANET+ (the Malawi Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS), with the support of other local, national and international program partners. MANET+ was chosen as the Council's partner for this special event in recognition of the organization's leadership in providing support to people living with HIV/AIDS and its history of successfully coordinating Candlelight Memorials.

Since 1983, the event has been meant to honor those lost or affected by the AIDS pandemic, as well as to educate, serve, and mobilize communities to action. The memorial takes place every third Sunday in May and is led by more than 1,000 volunteer "Candlelight Coordinators" who host memorials for their communities. To find out more or to locate an event near you please visit www.candlelightmemorial.org for more information.

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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 or www.TheAIDSInstitute.org

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