



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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***** PRESS RELEASE *****

MAYOR NEWSOM ANNOUNCES EXPANSION OF *HEALTHY SAN FRANCISCO*

Universal health care program expands to include residents at or below 300% Federal Poverty Level

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – Mayor Gavin Newsom announced that as of January 2, 2008 San Francisco residents with annual incomes at or below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level will be eligible to enroll in the *Healthy San Francisco* program. *Healthy San Francisco* is a program that provides accessible and affordable health care services to uninsured San Francisco residents.

“While the debate continues to rage at the state and national levels about how to provide comprehensive health care to those who need it, San Francisco is forging ahead with our universal access plan, making health care a reality not simply for the most vulnerable populations but also for everyday, working San Franciscans,” said Mayor Newsom. “*Healthy San Francisco* confirms that localities can play a vital role in fixing our broken health care delivery system.”

Three hundred percent of Federal Poverty Level is calculated as one person's annual income at \$30,630 and a family of four at \$61,950. Since its start in July 2007, 6,500 residents have been enrolled in the program at 100% of Federal Poverty Level. Through *Healthy San Francisco*, enrolled residents have access to primary care and preventive services at 27 participating public and non-profit health centers. In addition, participants have access to specialty, pharmacy and hospital care.

Healthy San Francisco offers universal health access for all city residents, regardless of a person's employment status, immigration status, or pre-existing medical condition. In order to effectively and efficiently enroll San Francisco's uninsured residents into the program, *Healthy San Francisco* enrollment is being phased in over an 18-24 month period.

Healthy San Francisco is administered by the San Francisco Department of Public Health in partnership with the San Francisco Health Plan. More information on the program is available at www.healthysanfrancisco.org or by calling 3-1-1.

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