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**ELDERLY NUTRITION ASSOCIATION ELECTS
SAN DIEGAN AS PRESIDENT**

President and CEO of Senior Community Centers to Lead Statewide Association

SAN DIEGO - Sept. 17, 2007 - To help promote nutrition as a vital tool to bettering the overall health of California's seniors, the California Association of Nutrition Directors for the Elderly, elects local resident Paul Downey its president.

The association provides direction and support to more than 100 member agencies, which provide nutritional services to seniors throughout the state, so they may continue to serve the needs of California's seniors. With an inevitable increase in the senior population on the horizon, organizations that provide services to seniors, including nutrition-based programs, will see a dramatic increase in the demand for their services.

Downey, who is president and CEO of San Diego-based Senior Community Centers, will help guide the association as it promotes the positive effects of a balanced nutrition on seniors' overall health and well being.

"Access to adequate nutrition plays a critical role in preventative health and reducing long-term care costs for seniors," said Downey. "By ensuring that our state's elderly have balanced diets, we can improve the health of older Californians' and may be able to prevent expensive medical care down the road."

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The California Association of Nutrition Directors for the Elderly supports its member agencies in their provision of high quality, cost-effective nutrition services, and promotes the vital role of nutrition in preventive health and long-term care throughout California. The association has an active advocacy role in Sacramento, Calif., where it supports the advancement of the Older Americans Act and serves as an influential organization for senior nutrition providers. The association's member agencies are private and government-funded programs serving more than 20 million congregate and home-delivered meals per year to more than 220,000 elderly and disabled persons.

Senior Community Centers is a nonprofit agency helping low-income seniors survive by providing meals, social, mental and medical health services, homeless and housing assistance, and cultural activities. For more information on Senior Community Centers, visit www.servingseniors.org or call 619/235-6572, ext. 308.

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