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LOCAL SENIOR ADVOCATE ELECTED TO LEAD
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SENIOR SERVICE PROVIDERS

*Support for Nutrition and Aging Services Programs is Critical
in Light of Current Economic Woes*

SAN DIEGO - July XX, 2008 - Solidifying his role as a senior advocate at the national level, in addition to his statewide and local efforts, San Diegan Paul Downey is the new president-elect for the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs' board of directors.

With food prices reaching an all-time high and individuals with fixed incomes already stretching their limited budgets, the association's advocacy efforts are of increasing importance. Using his years of local and statewide advocacy experience, Downey, who serves as president and CEO of San Diego-based Senior Community Centers, will help the nonprofit organization and its members make an impact on local, state and national public policy to maintain and improve the health and well-being of all older people.

Downey will also act as co-chair for the association's first joint conference with the Association of Nutrition Services Agencies next June.

"This conference is a symbol of our efforts to unify like-minded organizations to help us all work toward our common goal - providing supportive services and proper

nutrition to those who need it most,” said Downey. “We hope this unity helps us make an even bigger impact at the federal level.”

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The conference will offer nutrition program directors, dietitians, policy makers and others new evidenced-based research, creative ideas to increase participation and client satisfaction, and practical techniques in how to hone advocacy skills for use in their areas.

The National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs is a national membership organization for persons across the country working to provide older adults healthful food and nutrition through community-based services.

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

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