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**Champaign-Urbana Public Health District**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 28, 2008

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## **Champaign-Urbana to Host Illinois Department of Public Health Client Conference**

*Conference Expected To Attract Over 100 Participants  
Living With HIV in Illinois*

Champaign, IL – On April 29 – 30, 2008, the Illinois Department of Public Health HIV/AIDS Section will be hosting a conference for clients living with HIV in Illinois. “Positive Voices: Living and Learning” will provide a forum for over 100 Illinois HIV clients to hear speakers from across the country address issues specific to the HIV community, including new treatments, on-line social networking, sexual abuse, and getting older with HIV.

“HIV directly affects many citizens living in Illinois,” said Jeffery Erdman, HIV Prevention Lead Agent for CUPHD. “Living with HIV is difficult not only for those infected with the disease, but also for those making up the family and social circles of the client. Advancements in HIV research and treatments have allowed clients to live longer and more fulfilling lives. Communication is key for all involved.”

Currently, the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District (CUPHD) provides case management services for over 250 HIV-positive clients in Central Illinois. CUPHD provides HIV services in 11 counties in Illinois including: Champaign, Coles, Dewitt, Douglas, Edgar, Ford, Iroquois, Kankakee, Livingston, Piatt, and Vermilion. CUPHD provides medical assistance, dental assistance, utility assistance, housing assistance, legal assistance, mental health assistance, nutritional assistance, and support groups for people living with HIV.

The Champaign-Urbana Public Health District’s Infectious Disease Division also offers HIV education, prevention, testing and treatment at their new location at 201 West Kenyon Road in Champaign. Appointments are available Monday thru Friday; 8:00am – 4:00pm by calling 217-239-7827. CUPHD also offers “Rapid Testing Tuesdays” from 4:00pm – 5:30pm – no

appointment is necessary.

For more information on HIV / AIDS education, prevention, testing and treatment or any CUPHD programs please contact CUPHD at (217) 352-7961 or visit CUPHD on the web at [www.cuphd.org](http://www.cuphd.org).

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