



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 1, 2008

Attention: Community Editors, Business, Health Care
Writers and Editors

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UNITY HEALTH CARE PARTNERS WITH SISTER TO SISTER FOUNDATION IN COMMEMORATING NATIONAL HEART MONTH and NATIONAL WEAR RED DAY 2008

Washington, DC - Unity Health Care commemorates National Heart Month and National Wear Red Day by joining forces with the Sister to Sister Foundation and its founder; Irene Pollin, to increase awareness and encourage individuals to get the facts about heart disease during the Women's Heart Health Fair. The health fair will be held today at the Verizon Center located at 601 F Street, NW Washington, DC.

"Getting the facts to women about heart disease and making them aware that 'Heart Disease is the #1 Killer of Women in America' is our goal in this effort" says Vince A. Keane, President and CEO for Unity Health Care. "One of our employee lost a sister to heart disease during the holidays. She was only forty-three and had no prior history of the disease. This loss provided all of us a striking reminder of the risk of heart disease, and the importance of getting the facts to women in the District" added Keane.

Only 55 percent of women know that heart disease is the leading cause of death, and most fail to make the connection between its risk factors such as high blood pressure and high cholesterol, and their risk of developing heart disease. A national campaign chaired by First Lady Laura Bush, "The Heart Truth,." is underway to raise awareness that women need to protect their heart.

"The Heart Truth" features a Red Dress as the national symbol for women and heart disease awareness. This symbol links a woman's focus on her "outer self" to the need to also focus on her "inner self" and her heart. For more information about women and heart disease please visit www.hearttruth.gov.

Unity Health Care (Unity) provides health care to medically underserve in the District of Columbia, including almost 12,000 homeless men and women either in the streets or at shelters throughout the city. Unity offers a full range of health services regardless of patients' ability to pay. It provides service in more than 30 sites, including 11 community-based health centers, 9 medical sites in homeless shelters, 3 specialized health centers, and in the 2 city jails. Unity's mobile outreach vans travel throughout the city, providing care to homeless persons and "hard to reach" substance abusers. In 2007, Unity provided care to more than 80,000 people. For more information about Unity Health Care, visit www.unityhealthcare.org.

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