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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ASIAN HEALTH SERVICES CEO SHERRY HIROTA RECEIVES
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. LEGACY AWARD

What AHS CEO Sherry Hirota receives
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Legacy Award from
California Legislative Black Caucus

When & Where 2nd Annual King Legacy Breakfast
Thursday, January 21, 2010
Sheraton Grand Palace
Sacramento, CA

AHS CEO Sherry Hirota is being honored by the California Legislative Black Caucus with the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Legacy Award for her life's work in the spirit of Dr. King's legacy of equality and justice.

"I am so honored to receive the Dr. King Legacy Award," says Ms. Hirota. "Besides my parents, there is nobody who has shaped my values more than Dr. King and the Civil Rights Movement he led. As a community leader and health advocate, I believe in aspiring for a better world, engaging our communities to create change, and uniting across individual and community divides to reach shared goals."

The Dr. King Legacy Award is given to those whose life's work exemplifies the spirit of Dr. King's legacy of equality and justice. Ms. Hirota's advocacy of health care access for the underserved has immeasurably helped communities facing poverty, language barriers, and health disparities. Ms. Hirota's achievements include community health solutions to pedestrian safety, bridging the cultural divide between physician and patient, and ongoing advocacy to make health care a right for all Americans, all of which are extensions of Dr. King's legacy and dream.

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About Sherry Hirota

Ms. Hirota has been the CEO of Asian Health Services since 1983. Under her leadership, AHS has become a national model of culturally competent care providing services in nine Asian languages. Ms. Hirota is a Founding Officer of the Asian Pacific Islander American Health Forum, a Founding Board Member of the Alameda Alliance for Health, and a Trustee Emeritus of The California Endowment. She has received numerous awards for her leadership and advocacy, including the 2008 East Bay Business Times Women of Distinction Award, the 2007 Betsey K. Cooke Grassroots MVP Award (awarded by the National Association of Community Health Centers), the 2006 Minority Health Community Leadership Award, and the 2005 California Wellness Foundation's Champions of Health Professions Diversity Award. She chairs the health committee of the Dellums Commission on Young Men of Color.

About Asian Health Services

Founded in 1974, AHS serves and advocates for the medically underserved, including the immigrant and refugee Asian community, regarding their health rights, and works to assure equal access to health care services for all regardless of income, insurance status, language, or culture.