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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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### **County Sponsors FALL NUTRITION FAIR To Raise Awareness of New Resources and Address Senior Hunger**

**San José, CA.** More than 220,660 seniors reside in Santa Clara County, and over 6.4% of these are living daily in or below the poverty level. Many of these seniors, even those who are not in poverty, are living on fixed incomes and are forced to significantly reduce their food budget so that they can afford costly medications and the high cost of living in the Bay Area. Tragically, this has led to hundreds of seniors being food insecure and going hungry everyday.

On Monday, November 13, 2006, Santa Clara County Supervisor James T. Beall will meet with seniors in San José to raise awareness of the issue of senior hunger. *"No one should have to choose between paying their utility and medical bills and eating,"* says Beall. Recent studies have identified areas in San José with particularly high concentrations of elderly residents in poverty, and the County has committed additional resources to address their needs. *"Our seniors have contributed to our community throughout their lifetime, and we need to be there to support them when they need it,"* emphasized Beall.

During this past budget year, Supervisor Beall worked collaboratively with the Santa Clara County Department of Aging and Adult Services and the Council On Aging to successfully secure financial resources to open two new Senior Nutrition sites in District 4, Amber Glow Eldercare Center and the Blind Center. The new Senior Nutrition Program at Amber Glow Eldercare Center is a result of Supervisor Beall's determination to ensure seniors in his district have access to basic safety net services. Beall is committed to providing high quality nutritious meals to residents 60 years of age and older in an effort to promote healthy lifestyles and prevent chronic diseases.

Seniors will be invited to sample fresh produce from a "Fall Nutrition Faire", visit with dieticians to discuss their nutrition needs, learn about community resources including the new Senior Nutrition Site, Amber Glow Eldercare Center, that will open in 2007 at 1050 St. Elizabeth's Drive, San José, 951256.

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