

## PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

January 12, 2009

### “Unity for the Sake of Change”

The United States of America will inaugurate Barack Obama as its 44<sup>th</sup> president on January 20, 2009. The event will be a watershed moment in American history, and comes amid a time of economic crisis for our country.

Supervisor Keith Carson is working with faith-based and non-profit community partners to organize a series of events in the week leading up to the inauguration. Numerous religious institutions, churches, mosques, temples and others will open their doors to welcome the whole community on different times in the week leading up to the inauguration. The focus of the events will be presentations by community-based organizations that provide essential services for those in need and how people can become more engaged in community service. The presentations will be preceded by an interfaith prayer. *(Attached is a flyer with the dates, times, and locations of the events)*

The week will conclude on January 20<sup>th</sup> where over 10,000 community members are expected to view Barack Obama’s inauguration and acceptance speech at the Oakland-Alameda County ORACLE Arena. Numerous community-based organizations will be tabling to give attendees an opportunity to get informed and involved. Tickets are required for the event at the Arena—they are \$5 per person and are available for purchase at the Coliseum Box office and online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com). Parking will be free.

“This is a call to action,” says Supervisor Carson, “Barack Obama cannot turn this country around by himself. We have to leverage our resources and work together as a community to weather the storm of uncertainties during this economic recession.”

Schools and families are encouraged to witness this historic moment to help further educate young people about the value of civic engagement and community service. We hope that by attending the inaugural celebration people of all ages will be inspired to get involved in their communities and help make a positive change.

For more information go to [www.KeithCarson.org](http://www.KeithCarson.org)

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