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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **EHC LIFEBUILDERS TO CLOSE COLD WEATHER SHELTERS FOR THE SEASON**

*Cold Weather Shelter Program provides over 3,800 individuals  
with emergency shelter and services from November through March*

**San Jose, Calif., March 28, 2008** - EHC LifeBuilders, the largest provider of homeless emergency services in Santa Clara County, today announced that it will close its Cold Weather Shelter Program for the season the morning of Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. Since last November, the program has provided over 3,800 men, women and children with critical, life-saving shelter and services. The number served underscores the ongoing challenge of finding stable housing for the estimated 20,000 people who experience homelessness in Santa Clara County annually.

The Cold Weather Shelter Program is run out of the National Guard Armories in Sunnyvale and Gilroy and the Boccardo Regional Reception Center in San Jose. As a year-round program, the Boccardo Regional Reception Center will remain open and continue to provide shelter for 250 people a night. The closure of the armories, which are only open during the winter months, represent a temporary loss of 250 emergency shelter beds within the County.

“Closing the Cold Weather Shelter Program leaves me with mixed emotions – on the one hand we’ve been successful in providing thousands of men, women, and children with a warm place to sleep and food to eat during the harsh, winter months,” said Jennifer Loving, CEO of EHC LifeBuilders. “On the other hand with the closure of the armories, many of these individuals will have nowhere to go, a tragedy in a Valley as wealthy and innovative as ours.”

EHC LifeBuilders will hold an “Armory Community Celebration” event this Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. to recognize the dedicated volunteers, staff, and community partners who make running the Cold Weather Shelter Program possible. This year, over 150

volunteers helped serve ~75,000 meals throughout the duration of the program and an additional 50 volunteers provided basic operational support. The event will be held at the Boccardo Regional Reception Center located at 2011 Little Orchard Street at the corner of Curtner Avenue in San Jose. A BBQ lunch will be provided with the help of San Jose Firefighters, Local 230.

**About EHC LifeBuilders**

EHC LifeBuilders, a 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation, is a leading provider of shelter, housing opportunities and supportive services to people in crisis and those experiencing homelessness in Santa Clara County. At several locations throughout Silicon Valley, EHC LifeBuilders offers shelter, housing and services, and assists clients in their efforts to regain independence. For more information about EHC LifeBuilders or to make a donation, please visit [www.ehclifebuilders.org](http://www.ehclifebuilders.org) or call (408) 539-2100.

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