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**DUANE READE ANNOUNCES PROUD SPONSORSHIP OF AIDS WALK NEW YORK**

*~Duane Reade is Grand-Level Sponsor of Annual Walk to Raise Money for HIV Programs and Services in Tri-State Area~*

**New York, NY – May 15, 2008** – Duane Reade Holdings, Inc. today announced that The Duane Reade Charitable Foundation will donate \$50,000 as a Grand-level sponsor of AIDS Walk New York, which raises money for Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC) and fifty other HIV-centric programs and services in the tri-state area. Since 1986, the annual walk has become the largest AIDS fundraising event in the world. This year the walk will be held on Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008 in Central Park.

According to GMHC, New York City remains the epicenter of the HIV epidemic with more people living with HIV or AIDS than any other city in the United States.

"Duane Reade is proud to be a grand sponsor of the twelfth annual AIDS Walk New York, and we applaud the efforts of GMHC to promote awareness and prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS in our city," said Jim Scarfone, Senior Vice President Human Resources & Administration for Duane Reade and a Trustee of the Duane Reade Charitable Foundation. "As the leading drug store retailer in New York, we are committed to supporting organizations like GMHC that address serious health issues in the communities we serve."

"We are tremendously grateful for Duane Reade's exemplary support for AIDS Walk New York—the largest AIDS fundraiser and HIV awareness event in the world," said Marjorie J. Hill, PhD, Chief Executive Officer of Gay Men's Health Crisis, the prime beneficiary of AIDS Walk New York. "Duane Reade's generous support allows GMHC to continue providing a comprehensive range of services to more than 15,000 men and women and children living with and affected by HIV and AIDS, reach thousands of people with our educational programming on HIV prevention, testing and treatment, and fight to remove barriers to health and care."

In the last twelve years, AIDS Walk New York has raised \$97 million for programs and services that strive to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS and aims to support those afflicted with the illness. The walk attracts thousands of participants and raises millions of dollars each year.

To learn more about AIDS Walk New York and its benefactors, please visit [www.aidswalk.net/newyork](http://www.aidswalk.net/newyork).

The Duane Reade Charitable Foundation was formed in March 2007 and is committed to supporting charitable organizations that promote health and wellness in New York's communities. A portion of the charity's budget is also reserved to support programs that address local community needs.

**About Duane Reade**

Founded in 1960, Duane Reade is the largest drug store chain in the metropolitan New York City area, offering a wide variety of prescription and over-the-counter drugs, health and beauty care items, cosmetics, greeting cards, photo supplies and photofinishing. As of March 29, 2008, the Company operated 242 stores.

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