Good Morning

My name is Cynthia Davis and I am an Assistant Professor in the Medical Sciences Institute at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science in Los Angeles, California. I have worked at the University for the past 27 years, developing HIV primary prevention programs, as well as starting the first dedicated mobile HIV testing and outreach project in Los Angeles County in 1991 with funding from the Magic Johnson Foundation.

It has truly been an honor, and a pleasure to have worked with Magic and staff from the foundation since its inception to heighten awareness about HIV/AIDS in racial/ethnic minority communities in Los Angeles County, as well as to have been a partner with Magic and the foundation in its fight to stop the spread of HIV -- a disease which is 100% preventable.

Magic has been a blessing and a godsend to our community, and we have to acknowledge the 20 years of work he had spearheaded around this country and throughout the world to reduce the shame and stigma associated with HIV. But, more importantly, his efforts to get individuals who are at highest risk for infection with HIV, to know their status and to seek immediate medical attention and help.

HIV/AIDS is no longer a death sentence. Magic has demonstrated that. So, on today, November 7th, in commemorating 20 years that Magic has lived with HIV disease, we salute you Magic for all of the wonderful work you have done to
educate, inform and provide much needed testing and clinical services targeting medically underserved communities across the U.S. and around the world.