



PRESS RELEASE

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The Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center Receives an eBay Foundation Grant

(San Jose, CA – October 10, 2007). The Billy DeFrank Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Community Center in San Jose, California is the proud recipient of a CHAMPION A CHARITY grant of \$2500 from the eBay Foundation, also in San Jose, California. The grant was made possible as a result of Curtis Thornhill, an eBay Inc. employee, who “championed” funding for our organization. Funds will support the DeFrank Center’s HIV Testing and Counseling program.

“The support from The eBay Foundation will enable us to continue our HIV testing and counseling program at the DeFrank Center, which is one of only four publicly funded programs in Santa Clara county that provides free HIV tests and risk assessment counseling to the at-large community,” said Aejaie Sellers, executive director at the DeFrank Center “We greatly appreciate eBay’s support and look forward to continuing this partnership for years to come.”

In the past eighteen months, the DeFrank Center’s HIV testing and counseling program has tested over 700 people. Options with the DeFrank testing program include anonymity and rapid results that can be available in about twenty minutes. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that one in three persons infected with HIV remain unaware of their status. In Santa Clara County, with nearly 2,500 residents known to be infected with HIV, an estimated 850 people could still be unaware of their HIV infection. Our program is designed to make it easy for anyone to determine their status so they can do what is necessary to take care of themselves and have a quality life.

eBay Foundation’s CHAMPION A CHARITY program encourages employees to become involved with and advocate funding for nonprofit organizations that work to improve the quality of life for all. A competitive program through which grant decisions are made by employee committee, eBay Foundation CHAMPION A CHARITY grants are only made to organizations recommended for funding by eBay employees.

Curtis Thornhill, the eBay employee who sponsored this grant, has been involved with the Center for a number of years and is a current member of the Center’s Board of Directors and the Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee. He notes that the Center also has the first non-county run HIV testing and education program in the county. Curtis states, “It’s an important distinction and honor within the broader community and particularly valuable as a disproportionate concentration of HIV positive cases have been identified since the program’s inception. This grant specifically is valuable since funding for HIV programs across the board is at risk, and unclear for the Center in 2008.”



About the eBay Foundation:

eBay Foundation was established by eBay, Inc. in 1998 as a way to give back. Today, the foundation works to improve the social and economic well-being of communities by partnering with over leading nonprofit organizations. Since its inception, the Foundation has contributed over \$14 million to nonprofit organizations worldwide. To learn more about the foundation, visit www.ebay.com/foundation.

About The Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center:

Founded in 1981, the Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center addresses the needs and rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender people of all ages and backgrounds in Silicon Valley. The DeFrank Center provides a broad range of wellness, social and recreational activities, and emotional support services to approximately 400 visitors each week. The DeFrank Center is a 501(c)3, federally registered, tax-exempt organization, and receives over 21,000 contacts and requests for service a year (either in-person, via phone or on-line).