



CONTACT:

Margaret Tatar
Executive Director, Public Affairs
714.246.8796 (office)
mtatar@caloptima.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CALOPTIMA HONORED FOR SERVICE TO
COMMUNITY AFFECTED BY ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE**

Health Plan Covers One in Six Orange County Seniors

ORANGE, Calif. (June 23, 2011) — For its commitment to serving people with Alzheimer's disease and supporting their caregivers, CalOptima received the Community Partner of the Year Award from the Alzheimer's Association Orange County Chapter. CalOptima CEO Richard Chambers accepted the award this month at the association's event, "An Affair to Remember: On Safari," which raised money and awareness in the fight against Alzheimer's.

As the second largest health plan in Orange County, CalOptima serves 1 in 6 Orange County seniors, including many affected by Alzheimer's disease. CalOptima OneCare (HMO SNP), a program for seniors eligible for Medicare and Medi-Cal benefits, is a frequent sponsor of the Alzheimer's Association Orange County Chapter Memory Walks. CalOptima also invites the association to participate in its Community Alliances Forums and Conferences, which bring together outreach organizations for seniors and families with medical or social services needs.

"We sincerely appreciate this special honor as Community Partner of the Year," Chambers says. "CalOptima is keenly aware of the need to enhance the services and coordination of services for our members who are affected by Alzheimer's and dementia. We look forward to many years of partnership with the Alzheimer's Association, as we continue to provide access to quality care with compassion and dignity."

At the event, Jim McAleer, Alzheimer's Association Orange County Chapter president and CEO, thanked CalOptima for its contributions to the local community affected by Alzheimer's. "Alzheimer's disease is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States; the fourth in Orange County," he said.

About CalOptima

CalOptima is a county organized health system providing publicly funded health coverage programs for low-income families, seniors and people with disabilities in Orange County, Calif. CalOptima serves its 415,000 members with a network of more than 7,000 primary care doctors and specialists, as well as 30 hospitals. CalOptima provides access to quality health care through three programs, including Medi-Cal, Healthy Families Program and OneCare (HMO SNP).

###