



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 14, 2007

**Zimbabwean Sculpture to Benefit AIDS Orphans
OneCalifornia Bank & House of Stone Host Exhibition**

**Public Reception November 29th, 5 to 7 p.m. at OneCalifornia Bank
*Exhibit Runs November 20th through December 14th***

Oakland, California — In Zimbabwe, over one million AIDS orphans exist in a population of only 13 million people. OneCalifornia Bank and House of Stone Charitable Organization are sponsoring an exhibition of Zimbabwean stone sculpture to raise awareness of the international AIDS crisis and help children orphaned by the pandemic. OneCal Bank invites the public to a **reception** on November 29th from 5 to 7 p.m. at 1438 Webster Street in Oakland. House of Stone will make a brief presentation at 6 p.m. The sculpture will be on display at the Bank from November 20th to December 14th. Hours are Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. OneCal Bank, a new community development bank, is hosting the exhibition as a way to bring together people interested in the arts, economic development, children, health and other local community concerns. Proceeds from sculpture sales will benefit Zimbabwean AIDS orphans. World AIDS Awareness Week begins November 24th and culminates on World AIDS Day, December 1st.



In Zimbabwe, the number of orphans increases daily. The impact is devastating. Extended family networks and resources are stretched beyond capacity. “A lot of children are head of their household because their parents have died,” says Arnd Herz of Oakland, who with Susanne Martin Herz and other pediatricians cofounded House of Stone Charitable Organization to help these children. Named for the literal translation of the Shona word “Zimbabwe,” House of Stone is dedicated to assisting Zimbabwean children affected by the AIDS epidemic. The nonprofit organization funds community-initiated and community-supported programs in Zimbabwe that address this pediatric crisis.

The sculpture exhibited is made in Zimbabwe by modern sculptors, also known as Shona sculptors, who create outdoors. Many of them live simply and work in the artists’ colony of Tengenenge, where stone is quarried. They employ basic tools—hammer, chisel—and use sandpaper to bring the dark stone to a gleaming finish. The sculpture is purchased at fair-market prices from the artists and brought from remote locations to the United States. Proceeds from sales here are then used to fund projects for the orphans in Zimbabwe. In this way, the sculptors support themselves and help provide for the orphaned children.

House of Stone funded projects include: two new preschools in rural Zimbabwe for orphans and other vulnerable children; Farm Orphan Support Trust, a needs assessment and early implementation of a psychosocial support program for preschool-age orphans and vulnerable children on large commercial farms; Vimbainesu Orphanage funding for clothing, supplies and school fees for children, operating costs and staff salaries, and improvement projects to help prepare older orphans for life outside the orphanage; and development by a Zimbabwean women-led grassroots group, Shingirirai Trust, of two new Early Learning Centers in Tafara for 120 children aged three to seven years. The centers provide educational

OneCalifornia Bank Press Release November 14, 2007 - page 2

and emotional stimulation, as well as feeding, counseling, and medical referrals, and early education training to young teenage women.

OneCalifornia Bank is adding to Oakland's vitality by providing inviting spaces for people to bank, learn and participate in community development. The Bank finances small to medium-size businesses and community service and nonprofit organizations, as well as community facilities and affordable-housing development. It offers fair and comprehensive banking services, including accounts designed to help free customers from predatory lending cycles.

OneCalifornia Bank, FSB, seeks to improve economic opportunity for low- to moderate-income communities throughout California, starting in Oakland. OneCalifornia believes in making a difference—one individual, one business, one community at a time. The Bank partners with respected community institutions to provide banking services to small businesses, nonprofit organizations, community facilities, affordable housing, individuals and families. Banking services are integrated with financial literacy, technical assistance and business education supported by OneCalifornia Foundation. The Bank maintains a dual bottom line focus of meeting its social mission while operating in a safe, sound and sustainable manner. OneCalifornia Bank grew from the vision of Tom Steyer and Kat Taylor and the team they formed to create a sustainable, effective community development organization. The couple provided \$22.5 million in capital for the Bank and will donate 100% of their stock's economic value to OneCalifornia Foundation, the supporting nonprofit organization created by them to help the Bank in its mission. Tom Steyer is an investment banking professional, engaged at a senior level with San Francisco firms Hellman & Friedman, LLC, and Farallon Capital Management, LLC. Kat Taylor is active in the Bay Area nonprofit community, having served on the boards of Good Samaritan Family Resource Center, KQED, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts and the Insight Prison Project, as well as with many other public benefit and philanthropic ventures. OneCalifornia Bank's Board of Directors and Advisory Board draw from legal and financial investment sectors and community leaders throughout the Bay Area.

House of Stone Charitable Organization was started in Palo Alto, California, by concerned Bay Area pediatricians, Stanford medical students and community members in 2001.

For information about House of Stone or Zimbabwe, for an interview with one of the Founders, or for photos of children, the sculpture or the sculptors, please contact:

Rebecca Verity • Phone 510.530.1669 • rebeccaverity@yahoo.com • www.houseofstone.org

For information about OneCalifornia Bank or the exhibit and reception, please contact:

Lisa Zuffi, Banking Group Head, or Monique Nguyen, Executive Assistant
LZuffi@OneCalBank.com • MNguyen@OneCalBank.com • Phone 510.550.8400
1438 Webster Street, Suite 100, Oakland, CA 94612 • www.OneCalBank.com

This press release contains forward-looking statements. These statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expected.