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News Release

PETALUMANS PLAN TENT CITY AT THE CAPITOL

A Gathering of Tents is planned for Saturday, November 8th, on the lawn and west steps of the Capitol building, Sacramento, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM. The state-wide Tent City is planned to coincide with a similar national event on the National Mall in Washington, DC. Both events will feature refugee-style tents that have been painted with symbols of hope, by participating communities throughout the state and nation.

Both events are planned by Tents of Hope, a year-long project in which local groups gather their city's residents for tent painting, advocacy, education, and relief aid for the displaced people of Darfur, Sudan. In support of the national Tents of Hope events in DC, Tents of Hope groups throughout California will be gathering at the Capitol with tents, banners, and squares painted with messages of hope to the Darfuri people.

The public is invited to see the colorful tents, witness African drummers, participate in painting and crafts, and hear brief speeches. Participants will learn more about the crisis in Darfur and the genocide occurring there. People will also

have opportunities to write cards to government officials and to be counted with those who care about the genocide occurring, yet again in a world that said, “Never again.”

After the events of Nov. 8, the tents in Sacramento and Washington will be shipped to Darfur where they will be used by schools for classrooms and offices in refugee camps.

The statewide event is planned by Tents of Hope Petaluma. Co-Directors Dave Weidlich and Ken Roman extend an invitation to all in the community to come. For more information on the statewide and national events, go to www.tentsofhopepetaluma.org or email info@tentsofhopepetaluma.org.

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