



VILLAGEREACH NAMED 2009 TECH AWARDS LAUREATE BY THE TECH MUSEUM

VillageReach One of 15 Innovators from around the World Recognized for Applying Technology to Benefit Humanity

SAN JOSE, California and SEATTLE, Washington, Sept. 2, 2009 – VillageReach, the Seattle-based social enterprise that increases access to healthcare for remote last mile communities, was today named to The Tech Awards Laureates 2009, one of 15 global innovators recognized each year for applying technology to benefit humanity and spark global change. The Tech Awards, a signature program of The Tech Museum, and presented by Applied Materials, Inc., selected VillageReach from among hundreds of nominations representing 66 countries.

VillageReach's Management Information System (vrMIS) was recognized for its success in improving vaccine delivery and coverage rates in Mozambique by enhancing the supply chain logistics system. vrMIS empowers health workers to make informed decisions based on accurate and timely information and ensures that last mile communities receive the required volumes of medicines, vaccines, medical supplies and equipment they require at any one time. The vrMIS solution works by integrating and analyzing data gathered from the field using both paper, online and mobile technology systems to drive evidence-based decision making.

The Tech Awards: Technology Benefiting Humanity is one of the premier annual humanitarian awards programs in the world, recognizing technical solutions that benefit humanity and address the most critical issues facing our planet and its people. The awards program honors 15 scientists and innovators annually alongside the recipient of the Global Humanitarian Award. Laureates are selected by a prestigious panel of international judges organized by the Center for Science, Technology, and Society at Santa Clara University, and made up of Santa Clara University faculty as well as leaders from educational and research institutions, industry and the public sector around the world.

"The global challenges of the day have become increasingly strident, more deeply rooted," said Peter Friess, president of The Tech Museum. "Still, there is hope. These incredibly impressive Laureates have all proven to be equal to, or better than, the challenge to make the world a better place. By celebrating their accomplishments today, we are encouraging future innovators to work toward solutions to make the world healthier, safer and more sustainable."

Established in 2000, The Tech Awards recognizes 15 Laureates in five universal categories: education, equality, environment, economic development and health. These Laureates have developed new technological solutions or innovative ways to use existing technologies to significantly improve the lives of people around the world. One Laureate in each category will receive a \$50,000 cash prize during the annual Awards Gala in San Jose, Calif. on November 19.

About VillageReach

VillageReach is a non-profit social enterprise that extends the reach of conventional healthcare services to remote, underserved communities by creating dynamic delivery and information monitoring systems. Its mission is to save lives and improve well being in developing countries by increasing last-mile access to healthcare and investing in social businesses that address gaps in community infrastructure. VillageReach has been given the highest-possible charity rating by Givewell. See www.givewell.net.

About The Tech Museum of Innovation

The Tech Museum is a hands-on technology and science museum for people of all ages and backgrounds. Located in San Jose, California – the Capital of Silicon Valley – its mission, as a public-benefit corporation, is to inspire the innovator in everyone. Through hands-on exhibits, educational programs, The Tech Challenge team competition for youth, and the internationally recognized The Tech Awards, presented by Applied Materials, Inc., The Tech Museum honors the past, celebrates the present, and encourages the development of innovative ideas for a more promising future. For more information about The Tech Museum, visit www.thetech.org.

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