

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Evan Jones

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Karl B. Moeller, MPH

SENIOR ADVISORS

The Honorable Dale Bumpers

William Foege, MD, MPH

Jeffrey Koplan, MD, MPH

The Honorable Bob Michel

The Honorable John Edward Porter

The Honorable Paul G. Rogers

William Roper, MD, MPH

David Satcher, MD, PhD

The Honorable Louis Stokes

The Honorable Louis W. Sullivan, MD

ADVISORY COUNCIL

M. Elaine Auld, MPH, CHES

Michael Barry

Scott J. Becker, MS

Georges Benjamin, MD, FACP

Floyd E. Bloom, MD

Gail Cassell, PhD

John M. Clymer

Yank D. Coble, Jr., MD

Barbara A. DeBuono, MD, MPH

Neal Denton, CAE

Marie M. Fallon, MHSA

Phyllis Greenberger, MSW

George E. Hardy Jr., MD, MPH

W. David Helms, PhD

David P. Hoffman

Jennifer Howse, PhD

Paul E. Jarris, MD, MBA

John H. Klippel, MD

Alan Leshner, PhD

Jeffrey Levi, PhD

Allison Lewis

Patrick Libbey

Mary Pat McKay, MD, MPH

Patrick M. McLain

Lynn B. Nicholas, FACHE

William D. Novelli

Michael T. Osterholm, PhD, MPH

Hugh R. Parry

Andrew T. Pavia, MD

William Peck, MD

David B. Scharf, MPH

John Seffrin, PhD

Harrison Spencer, MD, MPH

Harry Teter

Reed V. Tuckson, MD

M. Cass Wheeler

Mary Woolley

The CPH Update

A Publication of the Campaign for Public Health E-Copy: November 2006

TIME Magazine COVERS CUTS IN CDC BUDGET

The Campaign's executive director, Karl Moeller, spoke with TIME senior writer Christine Gorman over the past several months as she wrote a story on the state of affairs at the CDC. The resulting balanced article was published in the November 27 edition of TIME and details many of the challenging issues facing the CDC. Budget cuts and the troubling impact these cuts are having on public health are a focal point of the story. Georges Benjamin, a CPH Board member, was quoted in the piece. Read the story at TIME.com.

CPH AND PARTNERS DISCUSS FY08 FUNDING WITH ADMINISTRATION

On November 16, CPH and a small group of partner organizations joined former members of Congress John Edward Porter and Bob Michel in a meeting with senior staff at the Office of Management and Budget. A designee from the office of Secretary Mike Leavitt also attended the meeting on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services. Attendees were told that the President will send Congress another fiscally conservative budget request for federal fiscal year 2008. The American Diabetes Association, the American Public Health Association, the American Red Cross and the National Association of County and City Health Officials joined CPH in the meeting.

Noting several troubling trends in the health of the population, CPH asked OMB to take a longer-term view and make the important health-protection work of the CDC a higher priority. A copy of the October 19 sign-on letter to the Administration reiterating this view - and signed by nearly 500 organizations -- was hand delivered to the Administration's officials during the meeting. The letter expressed concern that the past two Administration's budget requests sent to Congress proposed cutting core programs at the CDC by more than 8 percent in just two years.

CPH is not hopeful that the President's FY08 budget request will represent a much-needed change in the Administration's current policy of under-funding CDC's critical health protection efforts.

CHANGES IN CONGRESS

More than two dozen partners from a diverse group of corporate and non-profit organizations joined CPH leadership on a conference call to discuss outcome of the 2006 mid-term elections and the impact the changes in Congress may have on federal health funding. During the call, key points included:

- The Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bill will likely become a higher priority under a Congress led by the Democrats, as many of the programs in the bill are traditionally aligned with the Democratic Party.
- Budget deficits will make it difficult for leaders in Congress to dramatically increase domestic health spending, especially when tax increases would be unpopular.
- Democrats will likely want to address the large federal deficit prior to the 2008 presidential elections, putting further downward pressure on federal spending.
- The new Democratic leaders of key budget and appropriations committees are likely to be fiscally conservative. "Gimmicks" to add more dollars to key health bills may not be well received in the new Congress.
- To govern successfully, Democrats will need to govern from a centrist position. Their narrow margin in the Senate will mean they must include Republicans and the President if they hope to enact major legislative initiatives.
- Partners mentioned the importance of making a stronger case for the savings incurred through public health programs in order to leverage additional funding. *CPH is working to launch more frequent calls with interested partners in 2007.*

CPH GEARS UP FOR 2007

- CPH continues to work with several members of Congress on the formation of the *Congressional Study Group on Public Health*. Initial Hill briefings for this congressional member organization are expected to start early in the new year.
- As soon as the new Congress is sworn into office, CPH will begin planning a second congressional staff tour of the CDC – this time with Senate staff. Many of our partners have pledged to support regular staff trips to CDC.
- CPH, Ogilvy Public Relations and our partner organizations plan to finalize an ad concept in the near future that will draw attention to the work of the CDC.

CPH WELCOMES BACK THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

CPH is pleased to welcome back the American Red Cross as a member of the Advisory Council. Neal Denton, Vice President of Government Relations and Public Policy, has already attended meetings with CPH and we are pleased to have this critical organization in the public health community involved in our efforts.