

# The CPH Update

A Publication of the Campaign for Public Health

E-Copy: September 2006

## 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  
Georges Benjamin, MD, FACP  
Michael Barry  
Floyd E. Bloom, MD  
Gail Cassell, PhD  
John M. Clymer  
Yank D. Coble, Jr., MD  
Barbara A. DeBuono, MD, MPH  
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  
Steven A. Wartman, MD, PhD  
M. Cass Wheeler  
Mary Woolley

## LARGEST-EVER CONGRESSIONAL STAFF DELEGATION VISITS CDC

With support from nearly a dozen non-profit health organizations\*, the Campaign for Public Health led 18 Hill staff from the House of Representatives on a two-day tour and lecture program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Bill Gimson, the COO of the Georgia-based federal agency, welcomed the group to Atlanta and noted that this was the largest congressional delegation the CDC had ever hosted.

The bipartisan group represented members of Congress who sit on the House Appropriations, Commerce, Ways and Means and the Rules Committees. Several offices represented also sit on important subcommittees – including: the Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee and the Health Subcommittees for the Ways and Means committee.

Presentations from CDC scientists and staff provided a wealth of information on the various disease control and prevention activities at the CDC. Presentation topics followed the “Healthy People in Every Stage of Life” model CDC has adopted and included discussions not only covering “urgent threats” (such as pandemic influenza, bioterrorism and emerging infectious diseases) but also highlighting the nation’s ongoing efforts to tackle “urgent realities” (high rates of heart disease, asthma, obesity, health disparities, injuries, etc.).

While touring the CDC, participants toured a “Bio-Security Level 4” laboratory; saw the CDC’s environmental health and emerging infectious disease laboratories; held a question and answer session in the director’s recently completed Emergency Operations Center and learned about health marketing efforts in the CDC’s media center. Additional highlights from the trip include a videoconference with CDC staff in Kenya which focused on the CDC’s work in global health.

During the trip several staff commented that they were impressed by how the CDC is “doing so much with so little.” All were surprised by the breadth of activities the CDC covers on behalf of the American public.

CPH is grateful to the many partner organizations that supported this effort. This trip represented an important step forward in our effort to unite the many health advocacy groups together behind a common strategy that benefits the entire CDC. Planning for a similar trip with Senate staff – perhaps early in 2007 – will begin soon after the midterm elections.

*\*Partner Organizations include: Arthritis Foundation, American Cancer Society, American Diabetes Association, National Fragile X Foundation, American Heart Association, Home Safety Council, National Association of Chronic Disease Directors, Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy, American Public Health Association, Research!America and The Society for the Advancement of Violence and Injury Research.*

NOTE: Photos from the staff tour of the CDC campus are available at [www.FundCDC.org](http://www.FundCDC.org) under the “News from Washington” link.

# The CPH Update

E-Copy: September 2006 – Page 2

---

## **LAUNCH NEARS for CONGRESSIONAL STUDY GROUP ON PUBLIC HEALTH**

Four bipartisan members of Congress – all of whom sent staff to Atlanta for the Campaign's tour of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – have agreed in principle to form a congressional member organization that will focus more attention on public health and the important work of the CDC. Members include: JD Hayworth (R-AZ), Jim McGovern (D-MA), Kay Granger (R-TX) and Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA). A Dear Colleague letter to other key members of Congress announcing the formation of the Congressional Study Group on Public Health will be distributed after the midterm elections. Additional members will be invited to join the organization at that time.

The Study Group intends to invite top CDC scientists and other leaders in public health to Washington to brief interested members of Congress and their staff on public health issues. Presentations are anticipated to begin early in 2007 and will cover broad topics. Some early ideas for briefing topics discussed by the offices include:

- Border Health - Federal Efforts to Limit the Spread of Disease
- Domestic HIV/AIDS Programs - Prevention Trends and Successes
- Global Health - CDC's Work and the Role of "Health" in US Diplomacy
- Bio-terrorism or Natural Disasters - the Government's Public Health Protection Role
- Federal Efforts to Stop Diseases Spread by Ticks, Fleas, Mosquitoes, Mice and other vectors
- Marketing Health Information to the American Public
- The SARS Story - Lessons for a Possible Pandemic
- The Public Health Issues Facing Infants and Toddlers
- Workplace Health Promotion and Safety - A Comprehensive View
- Environmental Health - What's at the Cutting Edge

## **CO-SIGN LETTER TO PRESIDENT BUSH**

The Campaign for Public Health's annual letter to the Administration regarding the upcoming release of a new budget will be sent to partner organizations in the very near future. Please consider joining us in asking the Administration to significantly increase funding to the CDC in their FY08 year budget request to Congress.

## **NEWLY RE-DESIGNED CPH WEB SITE TOPS 560 HITS**

Just one year ago, the Campaign for Public Health's web site averaged slightly more than fifty unique visitors each month. Today that number has jumped to over 500. As a result, individuals from across the United States are signing up on the site to receive regular updates from the Campaign and our letter to Congress continues to be sent to members in both the House and Senate.

## **CPH WELCOMES THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS**

CPH is pleased to welcome Dr. Mary Pat McKay of the American College of Emergency Physicians to our growing list of Advisory Council members. We thank the ACEP for their interest in our mission and look forward to working with Dr. McKay as we move forward to better fund the CDC.