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Stop TB USA ANNUAL MEETING:

Over 150 persons interested in TB elimination attended the annual meeting. **Dr. John Bernardo assumed the position of Stop TB USA Chair replacing David DeBiasi who successfully completed his two year term.** We owe a great deal of thanks to David for his creative leadership. Dr. Bernardo is a Professor of Medicine and Research Professor of Biochemistry at Boston University School of Medicine and previously served as Medical Director of the Tuberculosis Program for the Boston Department of Public Health and Hospitals. Dr. Bernardo has received numerous awards and authored many TB-related articles. He is also a past President of the National Tuberculosis Controllers Association.

At this meeting, Eileen C. Napolitano was elected as the Chair-Elect. Eileen is the Deputy Director of the New Jersey Medical School Global Tuberculosis Institute in Newark, New Jersey. She is a communicable disease program operations specialist with 35 years experience in TB prevention and control activities.

Former Chair Dr. Randall Reves spoke about the new Stop TB USA “Call to Action for the Tuberculosis Elimination Plan for the United States” that proposes America:

1. Commit to implementing the IOM recommendations in *Ending Neglect* and conduct a periodic review on the progress toward elimination.
2. Develop new timelines and interim goals for tuberculosis elimination.
3. With the assistance of national, state, and local voluntary and professional organizations, obtain the infrastructure funding to enable Stop TB USA to collaborate with CDC and engage its members and partners in generating the political will to implement the IOM recommendations in *Ending Neglect* and the action plans in this update .
4. Address the federal funding gap by obtaining an independent assessment of how effectively the increased funding levels authorized in the Comprehensive Tuberculosis Elimination Act of 2007 could accelerate the development and implementation of new tools for diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of tuberculosis.
5. Engage at federal, state, and local levels policy makers, the public health sector, medical practitioners, professional societies, community-based organizations, and voluntary organizations to commit to TB elimination.

Electronic copies of the “Call to Action” Executive Summary and the complete report are available on the Stop TB USA Website at: <http://www.stoptbusa.org/>

PUBLIC HEALTH TB CONTROL COMMUNITY RECOGNIZES EXCELLENCE!!

The 2010 National Tuberculosis Conference, co-sponsored by the National TB Controllers Association (NTCA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), was held June 22-24, 2010, in Atlanta, Georgia. The theme for this year's conference was "Innovate to Accelerate: *On the Move to Eliminate TB.*" There were over 400 participants at the 2010 conference including state and big city TB Controllers, TB Nurse Consultants, TB Program Managers, TB laboratory staff, and TB Regional Training and Medical Consultation Centers (RTMCC) leadership, as well as CDC Division of Tuberculosis Elimination staff. **At this year's conference, the Public Health TB Control Community recognized their following colleagues:**

The **President's Award** is awarded at the discretion of the NTCA President to acknowledge special accomplishments of an individual or organization who has contributed to the NTCA or the TB community in general. **Awarded to Deborah (Deb) K. Sodt, RN, MPH, Minnesota Department of Health, St. Paul, MN.**

The **Carol Pozsik Award** is bestowed on a tuberculosis nurse for outstanding nursing services. **Awarded to Laurie Hickstein, BSN, Southern Nevada Health District, North Las Vegas, NV**

The **William Stead Award** is bestowed on a tuberculosis physician for outstanding patient care services. **Awarded to Barbara Seaworth, MD, Heartland National TB Center, San Antonio, TX.**

The **Ed Desmond Award** is bestowed on a tuberculosis laboratorian for outstanding tuberculosis laboratory services. **Awarded to Grace Shou-Yean Lin, MS, California Department of Health, Richmond, CA**

The **Robert Koch Award** is bestowed on a tuberculosis researcher for outstanding tuberculosis research contributions. **Awarded to Wendy Cronin, PhD, Maryland Department of Health, Baltimore, MD.**

The **Dixie Snider Award** is bestowed on a CDC employee who has rendered outstanding support through partnership to the state or local level tuberculosis community in the interest of tuberculosis control and prevention program improvement. **Awarded to Angela Starks, Atlanta.**

The **TB Controller of the Year**, NTCA's highest award, is given for meritorious service and achievement at the state, regional, or national recognition related to the improvement of tuberculosis control and prevention leading toward elimination. **Awarded to Mike Holcombe, MPPA, Division Director, Office of TB and Refugee Health, Mississippi State Department of Health, Jackson, MI.**

The **Charles Degraw Advocacy Award** is bestowed on an individual or organization who has rendered outstanding efforts and achievements in advocating for increased support of tuberculosis control and prevention efforts. **Awarded to Nuala Moore, DC.**

(TB WIRE Editor's Note: If some of your colleagues are recognized above, make sure your state/area colleagues and leadership are aware of this honor.)

A.G. HOLLY CELEBRATING 60 YEARS ON JULY 21!

You are welcome to join with the A.G. Holley staff and others as they all honor the A.G. Holly State hospital's history of treating tuberculosis in Florida and the Southeast. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Lee Reichman speaking on "*The Few Remaining (Impossible) Cases.*" This training event is offered on location at A.G. Holley State Hospital **and** online via streaming video. The hospital is located at: 1199 Lantana Road, Lantana, Florida. **Pre-registration is required.** To register, please go to <http://sntc.medicine.ufl.edu> **Please note:** During registration you will see a drop-down menu where you will need to choose whether you want to participate online via your computer or on location at the hospital. **Streaming video:** Connection information will be provided by e-mail several days before the event and posted on our home page (<http://sntc.medicine.ufl.edu>) under *What's Happening*.

HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ALLOCATES 6.6% INCREASE FOR USAID TB!

From the ATS Washington Office: The House State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Subcommittee, chaired by Rep. Lowey (D-NY), approved the 2011 spending bill for the State department, US Agency for International Development (USAID) and other foreign assistance programs. **The bill, which was passed by a unanimous voice vote, includes a 6.6% increase for USAID's tuberculosis program, boosting the FY2010 funding level of \$225 million to \$240 million.** The \$15 million increase is also \$10 million more than the President's proposed budget for the program. The next step for the 2011 State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations bill is a full Appropriations Committee vote and then companion Senate subcommittee and committee action, but it is not known when these actions will occur. It is expected that the 2011 appropriations process will be delayed due to the November election.

THE CPH FOUNDATION'S FIRST ANNUAL "UNSUNG HEROES" AWARDS

In an effort to bring more attention to the individuals who work on disease control and prevention efforts each day, The Campaign for Public Health (CPH) Foundation is calling for nominations to recognize two "unsung heroes" from the ranks of our nation's public health community. A distinguished selection committee will select two nominees in late August. One award recognizes large national or international efforts while the second targets work done by small community-based public health programs. Both awards will be presented to individuals that have not received national attention for their work in the past and who have solid outcomes data showing the impact of their program. Awards will be presented at an event in Washington, DC on November 18, 2010. All nominations must be received by August 16, 2010. Those interested in sponsoring this event should call 202 898 0435 and speak to Karl Moeller, executive director of The CPH Foundation. For more information on how to submit nominations, visit www.CPHFoundation.org/annual_awards.html. **(TB WIRE editor's note: Why not submit nominations for "TB Unsung Heroes?")**

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For additional information, check the **Stop TB USA** website at: <http://www.stoptbusa.org/> **Stop TB USA** was formerly known as the National Coalition for Elimination of Tuberculosis (NCET).

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