



HEALTHIER AMERICA SUMMIT CALLS TO ACTION GOVERNORS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, BUSINESS EXECUTIVES, HEALTH EXPERTS, MEDIA, AND COMMUNITY LEADERS

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WASHINGTON, June 12, 2007 – The Healthier America Summit being held today at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, DC, will focus on key public health issues including the impact of Americans’ health on the U.S. economy and the nation’s preparedness for a possible pandemic flu outbreak. The summit will bring together representatives from government, public health, health care, business, media, and community and faith-based organizations to discuss pressing public health issues. The event is hosted by the Trust for America’s Health (TFAH) with support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, The California Endowment, The Duke Endowment, and The Pew Charitable Trusts.

The event will feature the release of “A Vision of a Healthier America,” which issues a “call to action” for Americans to make disease prevention and protection from public health threats national priorities. A broad range of organizations have signed-on in support of the document, including the American Public Health Association, Association of Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, Association of Public Health Laboratories, Breast Cancer Fund, California Communities Against Toxics, Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, Center for Biosecurity of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Center for Science in the Public Interest, Commonweal, Environmental Defense, Families in Search of Trust, HIV Medicine Association, Ingham County (MI) Health Department, Ministry to Improve Childhood & Adolescent Health, National Association of Chronic Disease Directors, National Association of County and City Health Officials, National Center for Healthy Housing, National Disease Clusters Alliance, Physicians for Social Responsibility, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, The California Endowment, The New York Academy of Medicine, TFAH, and YMCA of America.

“America should strive to be the healthiest nation in the world,” said Governor Lowell Weicker, Jr., former three-term U.S. Senator and Governor of Connecticut. “This should be a nation where every American has the opportunity to be as healthy as he or she can be; where every community is safe from threats to its health; where all Americans have a high level of services that protect, promote, and preserve their health, regardless of who they are or where they live. This meeting underscores how much we will need every American to work together be part of the solution.”

The Healthier America vision states: “our nation must strengthen America's public health system in order to: 1) provide people with the information and resources they need to make healthier choices and live healthier lives, and 2) protect people from health threats beyond their control, such as bioterrorism, natural disasters, and infectious disease outbreaks. “

GOVERNORS OFFER BIPARTISAN PUBLIC HEALTH PRIORITIES

Governor Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr. (R-IN) and former Governor Mark Warner (D-VA) will deliver keynote remarks about public health policies and practices that can help Americans live healthier lives.

PANEL EXAMINES HEALTH AND U.S. ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS

The morning panel will include a discussion with business executives and public health experts about “Health and the U.S. Economic Competitiveness: How to Keep Our Workers Healthy and Costs Down,” moderated by Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, MD, MBA, President and CEO of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Panelists will include:

- Jo Ivey Boufford, MD, President of the New York Academy of Medicine
- Donna Chiffriller, Vice President of Corporate Benefits of Verizon
- Robert Greczyn, President and CEO of BlueCross and BlueShield of North Carolina
- Cynthia Sloat, Director of Health and Welfare Benefits of PepsiCo.

FRED FRIENDLY SEMINAR ON PANDEMIC FLU PREPAREDNESS

The afternoon session will feature a Fred Friendly Seminar on “Pandemic Flu: The Virus That Could Change the World,” using a hypothetical scenario to examine ways to better prepare the nation for a potential pandemic flu outbreak. The Fred Friendly Seminars format, created by the late president of CBS news and producer for Edward R. Murrow, uses hypothetical scenarios and some role-playing to explore how decisions are made and what their impact will be on a variety of constituents. **Please note the Fred Friendly Seminar is closed to video and TV cameras and flash photography.**

The seminar will be moderated by Jeff Greenfield of CBS News, and panelists will include:

- Governor Tom Kean, Chairman of THK Consulting LLC and Former Governor of New Jersey
- Governor Lowell Weicker, Jr., President of the Board of the TFAH and Former Three-Term U.S. Senator and Governor from Connecticut
- Anthony Fauci, MD, Director of Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases of the National Institutes of Health
- Rajeev Venkayya, MD, Special Assistant to the President for Biodefense at the White House Homeland Security Council
- Rick Kaplan, Executive Producer of CBS Evening News
- Susan Dentzer, Health Correspondent of *The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer*
- Shannon Cheffet, MD, Chief Medical Officer of Mountain Health and Community Services of Campo, California
- Gail C. Christopher, DN, Vice President of the Office of Health, Women, and Families and Director of the Health Policy Institute of The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
- Darrell Darnell, Director of the District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency
- Joseph Petro, Executive Vice President and Managing Director of CitiGroup
- Sandra Shewry, Director of the Department of Health Services of California

The event will be held from 8:30 am to 4 pm at the Amphitheater of Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW • Washington, D.C. For more information about the event and times of sessions or to sign up to attend, please contact Laura Segal at 202-223-9870 x 27 or lsegal@tfah.org or visit the summit Web site at: www.healthyamericans.org/dcsummit.

Trust for America's Health is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to saving lives by protecting the health of every community and working to make disease prevention a national priority.

The California Endowment, a private, statewide health foundation, was established in 1996 to expand access to affordable, quality health care for underserved individuals and communities, and to promote fundamental improvements in the health status of all Californians. The Endowment makes grants to organizations and institutions that directly benefit the health and well-being of the people of California. To date, The Endowment has awarded more than 9,000 grants across California totaling nearly \$1.7 billion. For more information, visit The Endowment's Web site at www.calendow.org.

The Duke Endowment, headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., seeks to fulfill the legacy of James B. Duke by improving lives and communities in the Carolinas. With assets of \$2.9 billion, the Endowment has awarded \$2.2 billion in grants since its inception in 1924.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation focuses on the pressing health and health care issues facing our country. As the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and health care of all Americans, the Foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful, and timely change. For more than 35 years the Foundation has brought experience, commitment, and a rigorous, balanced approach to the problems that affect the health and health care of those it serves. Helping Americans lead healthier lives and get the care they need—the Foundation expects to make a difference in our lifetime. For more information, visit <http://www.rwjf.org>.

The Pew Charitable Trusts (www.pewtrusts.org) is driven by the power of knowledge to solve today's most challenging problems. Pew applies a rigorous, analytical approach to improve public policy, inform the public and stimulate civic life. We partner with a diverse range of donors, public and private organizations and concerned citizens who share our commitment to fact-based solutions and goal-driven investments to improve society.

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