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Conference - 3/98 - CDC [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention] - STD [Sexually Transmitted Diseases] Conference

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Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta GA 30333

December 19, 1997

Ms. Sandra Thurman
Director
White House Office of National AIDS Policy
808 17th Street, N.W.
Suite 820
Washington, D.C. 20007

Dear Ms. *Sandra* Thurman:

In follow up of discussions that you have had with Dr. Judith Wasserheit and Dr. Joel Greenspan, I am writing to invite you to be a member of the National STD Action Forum. We believe there is a pressing need for an independent, diverse, intersectoral group of nationally recognized experts and leaders who will help initiate a new era in the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in the United States. We envision the National STD Action Forum as that group.

With the November 1996 release of *"The Hidden Epidemic: Confronting Sexually Transmitted Diseases,"* the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine (IOM) issued its compelling account of the tremendous burden and cost of STDs, the gaps in our current national approach to STD prevention, and the urgent reasons and steps to establish a more effective national system through a sustained, multisectoral collaboration. The National STD Action Forum will help define and lead national efforts to create an effective system of STD prevention in the United States. Ultimately, an effective system of STD prevention will influence the health of the public very broadly. It will help us, as a Nation, reduce impaired fertility, sexually transmitted HIV infection and cancers, and ensure healthier babies. Great improvements in health will be realized for women, infants, adolescents, and disenfranchised, minority populations.

The conceptual foundation of an effective national effort to prevent STDs rests on the strategies outlined by the IOM: promote healthy sexual behaviors; provide access to high quality, essential STD services particularly for adolescents and underserved populations; develop strong leadership, strengthen investment, and improve information systems. Within each of these strategic domains, the road from concept to reality will be built by a group of national leaders both within and beyond the health sector.

We are asking members of the National STD Action Forum to join with CDC and its partner organizations to accomplish three specific tasks over the next two years:

- 1) to assess public perceptions and help reframe the public policy dialogue about STDs and STD prevention as a first step in engaging the National in an extended and visible commitment to reducing the health and economic burden of these diseases;

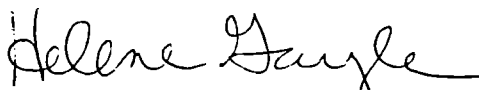
- 2) to identify and mobilize new individual and organizational stakeholders who are relevant to the new conceptual framework and challenge them to begin new institutional and collaborative initiatives; and
- 3) begin to unify private and public sector policy development and health-care services for STD prevention, especially at the community level.

We anticipate the National STD Action Forum convening two or three times per year during the next two years. Meetings will last approximately two days.

This vital work of creating a new STD prevention system for the Nation will require influential, visionary people, such as you, representing diverse disciplines, institutions, and experiences, who can reach out to other influential persons and organizations to prevent STDs and their consequences. We hope you will be able to join us in strengthening the national response to STD prevention.

Drs. Joel Greenspan and Judith Wasserheit (Tel:404-639-8260/FAX:404-639-8608) in the Division of STD Prevention will be able to provide any additional information you need. I would appreciate your notifying them by January 9, 1998, of your availability to participate, and indicate the dates during March 1998 that would be both most convenient and impossible for you to attend an initial two day meeting of the National STD Action Forum in Washington, D.C.

Sincerely yours,



Helene D. Gayle, M.D., M.P.H.

Director

National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention

cc:

Todd Summers

Data Entry Form

Letter ID	Writer First Name	Writer Last Name	Received Date	Subject
10612	Judith	Wasserheit	3/13/98	Inaugural Natl STD forum

✓ Response Required?

Response Type	Response Date	Responder ID	Responder Name	Action Promised
			TSummers	

Action Completed	Action Date	Addressed To

Notes

Members list attached

Sender's Organization	Sender's Street1	Sender's Street2
HHS/CDC		
Sender's City	Sender's State	Sender's Zip
Atlanta		



Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta GA 30333

March 12, 1998

Mr. Todd A. Summers
Deputy Director
Office of National AIDS Policy
808 17th Street, 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. Summers:

In approximately two weeks, the inaugural session of the National STD Action Forum will be at the Loews L'Enfant Plaza Hotel at 480 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Washington, D.C. Just as the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) original report, *The Hidden Epidemic: Confronting Sexually Transmitted Diseases*, was a landmark call to action to establish an effective national system to address the tremendous health burden and cost of STDs, the first meeting of the National STD Action Forum will be an unprecedented opportunity for public and private sector leaders in health, research, education, the faith communities, and the entertainment media to work together to develop new, sustainable solutions to the IOM's challenge. In follow up of our discussions, I am writing to invite you to attend this meeting so you get a first hand view of these deliberations and the new partners who will be working with each other and with us on STD prevention in the future.

This meeting will be a critical first step in defining a new direction for STD prevention in the United States. I anticipate a meeting that will also be very stimulating and fun because of the unusually creative, dynamic, and diverse minds that will be coming together for this "thinktank" (list of STD Action Forum members enclosed). I expect them to be frank, provocative, and creative in their comments.

The objectives of the upcoming meeting are five-fold:

- to prioritize **new perspectives or lenses** on STDs that are likely to galvanize attention, constructive policy dialogue and effective action;
- to define **new, multisectoral leadership** and recommend strategies to begin to engage those new partners;
- to identify **new approaches** that might be possible through these new perspectives and partners;
- to recommend **new mechanisms** that would increase the visibility and sustainability of national efforts;
- to assess the **new resources** that would be required to support these initial recommendations and consider strategies for their development.

Page 2 - Mr. Todd A. Summers

As is outlined on the enclosed preliminary agenda, we will begin at 8:30 am on Monday, March 23rd by discussing the objectives for the National STD Action Forum in the context of a brief summary of the IOM report. We will then examine the current public dialogue about STDs from three perspectives: first, the general population perspective, through the results of focus groups and a national poll commissioned by the Kaiser Family Foundation; second, news and entertainment media perspectives; and third, health care perspectives, including consumers, providers, and purchasers.

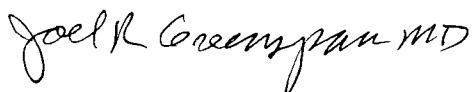
On the basis of these presentations and discussions, the Forum members will then select the three new "frames" or perspectives that will be the foci of Work Groups for the remainder of the first day and the beginning of the second. It is during these Work Groups that I hope they will really "roll up their sleeves," reach beyond what we currently know and do, and generate the kind of new ideas that shift paradigms.

On Tuesday, March 24th, following the Work Group reports back to the entire Forum, the members will consider the resource implications of the Work Group recommendations from public and private perspectives at Federal, State, local, and community levels. We will end the meeting with a discussion of future directions in establishing an effective STD prevention system in this country and specific next steps for the National STD Action Forum.

There will be time for you to meet and exchange ideas with Forum members during the meeting. Specifically, in addition to observing the general sessions, you are invited to sit in on the Work Groups and to attend the luncheon sessions each day with the Forum members. Also, on Monday evening, beginning at 6:00 pm there will be a social hour at the hotel that you are invited to attend. If you need hotel accommodations for Sunday or Monday night, please make sure you let Glenda Vaughn (404-639-8260) know so she can put you on the hotel guest list. You will not have to call the hotel directly. If you know you will not be attending both luncheon sessions, please let Glenda know so we can provide the hotel with an accurate meal count.

We are very excited about the National STD Action Forum and your participation in it as an observer. I, personally, look forward to seeing you on the 23rd.

Sincerely,



for Judith N. Wasserheit, M.D., M.P.H.
Director
Division of STD Prevention
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Enclosures

National STD Action Forum Members

March 10, 1998

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**National STD Action Forum
Inaugural Meeting
March 23-24, 1998**

Preliminary Agenda

Monday, March 23, 1998

Facilitator--Judith Wasserheit

- 8:30 - 9:15am Welcome and introductions
 Helene Gayle
- 9:15 - 9:45am Background and objectives of a National STD Action Forum
 Objectives for inaugural meeting
 Felicia Stewart--Background
 Judith Wasserheit--Objectives
- 9:45 - 10:45am Why we need a more effective system for STD prevention in the United
 States: *An Overview of The Hidden Epidemic: Confronting Sexually*
 Transmitted Diseases
 Moderator: Helene Gayle
- Panel: Dorothy Mann - Healthy sexual behavior; leadership; investment
 King Holmes - Accessible, high quality care; focus on youth and
 disenfranchised populations; surveillance
 Michael Shriver - STD detection and treatment as an HIV
 prevention strategy
- Discussion (10:15 - 10:45am)
- 10:45 - 11:00am Break
- 11:00am - 12:00pm The Public Dialogue--Part I: General Population Perspectives - Focus
 Groups and National Poll Results
 Moderator: Felicia Stewart
- Invited guest: Ethel Klein (EDK Associates, NY, NY)
 Discussant: Larry Wallack
- Discussion (11:30am - 12:00pm)

12:00 - 1:30pm	Luncheon
Luncheon Program:	The Public Dialogue--Part II: Media Perspectives on STDs in America Moderator: Karen Hein
	Panel: Susan Okie (Washington Post) Sheila Johnson (Black Entertainment Television)
	Discussion (1:00 - 1:30pm)
1:45 - 3:15pm	The Public Dialogue--Part III: Health Care Perspectives on STDs in America Moderator: Bailus Walker
	Panel: Kim Orlando (Health care consumers) Aaron Shirley (Primary care providers) Nelba Chavez (Substance abuse treatment) John Ludden (Managed care organizations) Mary Jane England (Private sector health care purchasers) Sally Richardson (Public sector health care purchasers)
	Discussion (2:45 - 3:15pm)
3:15 - 3:45pm	Selection of priority perspectives for initial consideration in Work Groups
3:45 - 4:00pm	Reframing the Public Dialogue---Introduction to Work Groups and Key Questions Presenter: Judith Wasserheit
	Key questions for each priority perspective:
	• What new sectors should be involved? • Why are they important and what can they contribute? • How should we engage them in a sustained way? • As a result, what would likely be done differently regarding increasing healthy sexual behavior and/or expanding access to high quality health care? • What mechanisms should be used to ensure sustainability (eg: national roundtable)?
4:00 - 5:30pm	Work Groups
6:00 - 7:00pm	Social hour

Tuesday, March 24, 1998

Facilitator--Felicia Stewart

8:30 - 10:00am	Continuation of Work Groups
10:00 - 11:30am	Work Group Presentations Work Group I (10:00 - 10:30am) Work Group II (10:30 - 11:00am) Work Group III (11:00 - 11:30am)
11:30am - 12:30pm	Discussion
12:30 - 2:00pm	Luncheon
Luncheon Program	Ensuring resources for creating sustained, intersectoral momentum in STD prevention Moderator: Frank Beadle de Palomo Panel: Focus on ...Congress (Cynthia Hall) ...The Administration (Marsha Martin) ...Federal agencies (Earl Fox) ...State and local government (John Lumpkin) ...Community and private sector investment (Joan Dunlop) Discussion (1:30 - 2:00pm)
2:00 - 4:00pm	The future of national efforts and the role of the National STD Action Forum Moderator: Jim Curran Meeting Summary: King Holmes Invited guest response: Member of Congress (invited) Discussion--Next Steps (2:40 - 4:00pm)
4:00pm	Adjourn



Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta GA 30333

March 11, 1998

Ms. Sandra Thurman
Director, Office of National AIDS Policy
808 17th Street, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Ms. Thurman:

In approximately two weeks, we will meet in Washington DC for the inaugural session of the National STD Action Forum. Just as the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) original report, ***The Hidden Epidemic: Confronting Sexually Transmitted Diseases***, was a landmark call to action to establish an effective national system to address the tremendous health burden and cost of STDs, our first meeting of the National STD Action Forum will be an unprecedented opportunity for public and private sector leaders in health, research, education, the faith communities, and the entertainment media to work together to develop new, sustainable solutions to the IOM's challenge.

Our meeting will be a critical first step in defining a new direction for STD prevention in the United States. I anticipate a meeting that will also be very stimulating and fun because of the unusually creative, dynamic, and diverse minds that will be coming together for this "thinktank" (list of STD Action Forum members enclosed). I hope you will be frank, provocative, and creative in your comments.

The objectives of the upcoming meeting are five-fold:

- to prioritize **new perspectives or lenses** on STDs that are likely to galvanize attention, constructive policy dialogue and effective action;
- to define **new, multisectoral leadership** and recommend strategies to begin to engage those new partners;
- to identify **new approaches** that might be possible through these new perspectives and partners;
- to recommend **new mechanisms** that would increase the visibility and sustainability of national efforts;
- to assess the **new resources** that would be required to support these initial recommendations and consider strategies for their development.

As is outlined on the enclosed preliminary agenda, we will begin at 8:30 am on Monday, March 23rd by discussing the objectives for the National STD Action Forum in the context of a brief

Page 2 - Ms. Sandra Thurman

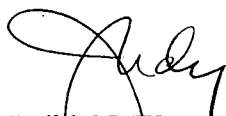
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On the basis of these presentations and discussions, the Forum members will then select the three new "frames" or perspectives that will be the foci of our Work Groups for the remainder of the first day and the beginning of the second. It is during these Work Groups that I hope we will really "roll up our sleeves," reach beyond what we currently know and do, and generate the kind of new ideas that shift paradigms.

On Tuesday, March 24th, following the Work Group reports back to the entire Forum, we will consider the resource implications of the Work Group recommendations from public and private perspectives at Federal, State, local, and community levels. We will end our meeting with a discussion of future directions in establishing an effective STD prevention system in this country and specific next steps for the National STD Action Forum.

We are very excited about the National STD Action Forum and your participation in it. I, personally, look forward to seeing you on the 23rd. Please do not hesitate to contact me, if I can assist you in any way in preparing for the Forum.

With best regards,



Judith N. Wasserheit, M.D., M.P.H.

Director

Division of STD Prevention

National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention

Enclosures

P.S. - I was very disappointed to learn that you will not be able to attend this initial meeting, but appreciate Todd's willingness to be your "Eyes & Ears" at the session. Please do make sure you can join us for the Fall meeting.



**National STD Action Forum
Inaugural Meeting
March 23-24, 1998**

Preliminary Agenda

Monday, March 23, 1998

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- | | |
|-------------------|---|
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Objectives for inaugural meeting
Felicia Stewart--Background
Judith Wasserheit--Objectives |
| 9:45 - 10:45am | Why we need a more effective system for STD prevention in the United States: <i>An Overview of The Hidden Epidemic: Confronting Sexually Transmitted Diseases</i>
Moderator: Helene Gayle

Panel: Dorothy Mann - Healthy sexual behavior; leadership; investment
King Holmes - Accessible, high quality care; focus on youth and disenfranchised populations; surveillance
Michael Shriver - STD detection and treatment as an HIV prevention strategy

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Moderator: Felicia Stewart

Invited guest: Ethel Klein (EDK Associates, NY, NY)
Discussant: Larry Wallack

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Tuesday, March 24, 1998

Facilitator--Felicia Stewart

8:30 - 10:00am	Continuation of Work Groups
10:00 - 11:30am	Work Group Presentations Work Group I (10:00 - 10:30am) Work Group II (10:30 - 11:00am) Work Group III (11:00 - 11:30am)
11:30am - 12:30pm	Discussion
12:30 - 2:00pm	Luncheon
Luncheon Program	Ensuring resources for creating sustained, intersectoral momentum in STD prevention Moderator: Frank Beadle de Palomo Panel: Focus on ...Congress (Cynthia Hall) ...The Administration (Marsha Martin) ...Federal agencies (Earl Fox) ...State and local government (John Lumpkin) ...Community and private sector investment (Joan Dunlop) Discussion (1:30 - 2:00pm)
2:00 - 4:00pm	The future of national efforts and the role of the National STD Action Forum Moderator: Jim Curran Meeting Summary: King Holmes Invited guest response: Member of Congress (invited) Discussion--Next Steps (2:40 - 4:00pm)
4:00pm	Adjourn

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