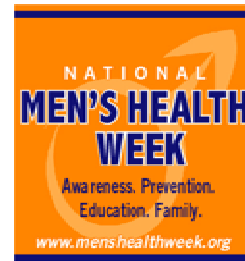


National Men's Health Week 10th Anniversary 1994-2003



For Immediate Release
www.menshealthweek.org

Contact: Cory Jensen
202/543-6461 x 101

‘NATIONAL MEN’S HEALTH WEEK’ CELEBRATES 10th ANNIVERSARY

Health Screenings on Capitol Hill Set Example for Rest of the Country

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 10, 2003 –Congressional leaders and their staffs will kick off a week-long celebration of National Men’s Health Week with health screenings on Capitol Hill. The three-day Congressional screening is designed to demonstrate how easily simple, pain-free diagnostic tests can save lives. Event supporters hope that participation by members of Congress will help raise awareness of the rising and predominantly silent crisis in the health and well-being of men.

National Men’s Health Week, celebrated each year during the week leading up to and including Father’s Day, sponsors activities in communities across the country, bringing together corporations, government agencies, religious and fraternal organizations and others committed to the prevention and treatment of men’s health issues. With support from Pfizer Inc, this year’s Congressional program will include screenings for prostate cancer, blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes and body fat.

“We’re pleased that Congress continues to take such an active role in National Men’s Health Week,” said Megan Smith, Director of Project Development, Men’s Health Network. “Their support, and that of the many participants nationwide, has enabled us to raise awareness of men’s health issues in more and more communities across the country.”

Congress has remained committed to National Men’s Health Week since its inception. For the past six years, men’s health screenings have been offered on Capitol Hill during National Men’s Health Week, with more than 700 members, staffers and employees participating each year. Among several Congressional leaders, U.S. Representatives Randy “Duke” Cunningham and John Conyers and U.S. Senators Bill Frist, Richard Shelby and Mike Crapo have been instrumental in joining the Men’s Health Network in supporting this effort. Over 300 members of Congress cosponsored the “National Men’s Health Week” Act in 1994.

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Men’s Health Network
P.O. Box 75972 • Washington, DC 20013
202.543.MHN.1 • info@menshealthnetwork.org

“As a prostate cancer survivor, I know first hand the importance of annual examinations and early detection,” said U.S. Representative Randy “Duke” Cunningham. “Do not become a statistic. Please stop by your local clinic or doctor’s office this week for a screening for prostate cancer, blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, colon cancer, and body fat. Take the time to protect your health and have a health professional explain your risks and the results of your tests.”

Senator Richard Shelby, also a cancer survivor agreed, “I encourage everyone to take care of their health, it was a routine test that detected my own cancer and saved my life. We cannot overstate the importance of annual health examinations and early detection.”

The need for men to see a doctor and get tested is a key goal of Men’s Health Week. “Generally, men are less likely to see a doctor or be proactive about their health than women, and they need to follow the standard set by women who tend to take better care of their own health,” said Senator Mike Crapo, a prostate cancer survivor. “National Men’s Health Week calls attention to the simple fact that regular medical exams, preventive screenings, regular exercise and healthy eating habits helps save lives. Ultimately that means men will live longer with a higher quality of life. The reflection on society could be higher work productivity, reduced Medicare expenses, and spouses who enjoy a longer life together and children who benefit from having a healthy father in their lives.”

“The value of men having an annual exam is well documented,” said Ken Bowler, Vice President of Pfizer’s Washington, DC office and sponsor of this year’s Men’s Health Network Screening. “Pfizer strongly supports the work of the MHN and, in particular, urges all men to attend this important MHN event here on the Hill.”

In addition to the support from Capitol Hill, more than 45 governors have declared Men’s Health Week in their states and a number of corporations have also signaled their commitment to promoting men’s health issues during National Men’s Health Week.

“Lack of awareness, poor health education and culturally induced behavior patterns in the work and personal lives of men continue to contribute to the growing crisis in men’s health,” said Jean Bonhomme, MD, MPH and Board of Director’s member of the Men’s Health Network.

The **Men’s Health Network** is a non-profit educational organization comprised of physicians, researchers, public health workers, individuals and other health professionals. MHN is committed to improving the health and wellness of men through education campaigns, data collection and work with health care providers to provide better programs and funding on men’s health needs. Additional questions or comments should be referred to info@menshealthnetwork.org or by calling (202) 543-6461, ext. 101.

Supported by elected officials, businesses and communities from across the country, **National Men’s Health Week** will be recognized through events from Los Angeles to New York City. The following are just a few of the many notable events occurring this week and their sponsors.

Men’s Health Network
Washington, DC
Contact: Megan Smith
202-543-6461 extension 101

Woodhull Medical and Mental Health Center
Brooklyn, New York
Contact: Ruth Hunt
718-630-3367

Phoebe Putney
Albany, Georgia
Contact: Darryl Sabbs
229-889-7375

Pinellas County Health Department
St. Petersburg, Florida
Contact: Bob Janssen
727-824-6923

Gallo Prostate Cancer Center
New Brunswick, New Jersey
Contact: Betty Gallo
732-235-6198

Dad's 5K Run
Indianapolis, Indiana
Contact: David Caldwell
765-825-2427

Los Alamos National Labs
Los Alamos, New Mexico
Contact: Alan Figg
505-667-7166

Ford – UAW National Programs Center
Detroit, Michigan
Contact: Jennifer Nott
313-392-7029

Seniors Are Special – University Medical
Center
Lubbock, Texas
Contact: Peter Laverty
806-775-8760

People Assisting the Homeless (PATH)
Los Angeles, California
Contact: Bob Smith
323-644-2254

In addition to the many events that are happening nationwide, members of the Men's Health Network Advisory Board have volunteered as spokespersons during National Men's Health Week, each tailoring their medical specialty into the overall message of men's health.

Jean Bonhomme, MD, MPH
Emory University
Atlanta, Georgia
Specialty: Minority health, drugs and AIDS
404-712-9518

David Gremillion, MD, FACP
University of North Carolina
Raleigh, North Carolina
Specialty: Men's health, infectious diseases
919-350-8533

Megan Smith
Men's Health Network
Washington, DC
Specialty: Public policy and the role of women in men's
health
202-543-6461 x 101

Tracie Snitker
Men's Health Network
Washington, DC
Specialty: Public policy and the role of women in men's
health
202-543-6461 x 102

Francisco Semiao, MPH
DC Department of Health
Washington, DC
Specialty: Public health, cancer, Hispanic health
2024424827

Al Baraff, PhD, Clinical Psychologist
MenCenter
Washington, DC
Specialty: Mental health
202-393-3300

Armin Brott
MrDad.com
Oakland, California
Specialty: Parenting
510-734-2297

Dean Troyer, MD
University of Texas Health and Science Center
San Antonio, Texas
Specialty: Prostate Cancer
210-567-4101

Peter Rumm, MD
State of Wisconsin, Division of Public Health
Madison, Wisconsin
Specialty: Public Health
608-267-3835

Robert Tan, MD
University of Texas
Houston, Texas
Specialty: Andropause (male menopause), aging
713-500-7580

Gary Onik, MD
Center for Surgical Advancement
Orlando, Florida
Specialty: Prostate cancer
407-303-4228

Claire Washington, MSN, CRNP
Health and Wellness Center
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Specialty: Preventive health
215-751-8181

Sharam Gholami, MD
San Jose, California
Specialty: Urological disease
408-356-6177

Ed Stephens, MD
Psychiatrist
New York City
Specialty: Mental health
212-249-8861

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