

# CONNECTIONS

A B I M O N T H L Y E - N E W S L E T T E R



THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR HIV/AIDS, VIRAL HEPATITIS, STD, AND TB PREVENTION

Nov - Dec 2009

## DIRECTOR'S UPDATE



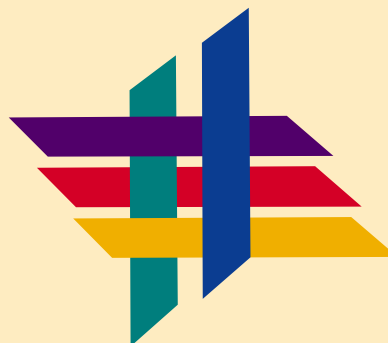
**Dr. Kevin Fenton**  
Director, NCHHSTP

What a remarkable year it has been for conversations on health care in America! The debates have encouraged many to question what public health should look like in the era of health reform given challenging infrastructure needs, evolving societal-level determinants of health, and desire to increase positive health outcomes.

In the year ahead, I will highlight our Center's efforts to meet these challenges. I am pleased to announce the change in name and focus of NCHHSTP's Office of Health Disparities to the Office of Health Equity. This signals our commitment to eliminating health inequalities by employing a social determinants of health approach that incorporates factors such as social structures and economic systems. During this time of change, we are committed and poised to lead for prevention.

## Upcoming PCSI White Paper Launch

This fall, we are pleased to publish a new NCHHSTP White Paper on Program Collaboration and Service Integration (PCSI). The document will outline the vision and objectives for this major NCHHSTP strategic priority, along with a framework for conceptualizing, implementing, and evaluating PCSI at national, state, and local levels.



The white paper contains key principles and pragmatic guidance that will be relevant for other CDC units, federal agencies, publicly funded entities, professional organizations, community-based organizations, and private health care providers where significant intersections in program objectives, populations, venues, or services exist. We acknowledge the tremendous work that our partners have done to promote better collaboration and integration of services. The white paper aims to build upon these accomplishments by outlining a more systematic approach to PCSI. The paper will be available later this year, so please mark your calendars to visit the [PCSI Web site](#).

## TB Screening and Treatment Program for U.S.-Bound Refugees in Nepal

Work to eliminate tuberculosis (TB) takes place through the dedicated efforts of many people at home and abroad. With the majority of TB cases in the United States occurring among foreign-born individuals, the need for overseas screening for TB has become more evident. In 2007, CDC published revised [Technical Instructions for Tuberculosis Screening and Treatment](#) for overseas medical screening of applicants for U.S. immigration to better detect and treat TB before entry into the United States. CDC and partners then conducted evaluations in three locales with programs screening refugees or immigrants requesting entry into the United States. The most recent evaluation was for Bhutanese refugees located in Nepal; approximately 60,000 of these refugees will be resettled to the United States in the next 5 years. The team evaluated the screening, diagnosis, and treatment process for this high-risk population. Thanks to all for this important work linking global and domestic TB control.

## NEW FROM CDC

INTERNATIONAL  
LABORATORY  
ACCREDITATION

HIV/AIDS IN THE US  
FACT SHEET

AIDS IN THE US  
BY GEOGRAPHIC  
DISTRIBUTION

MMWR: RECTAL AND  
PHARYNGEAL STD  
TESTING

REPORTED TB IN  
THE UNITED STATES,  
2008



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**December 1**

World AIDS Day

**December 3-7**

40th Union World  
Conference on Lung Health

**March 8-11**

2010 National STD  
Prevention Conference

**Locations and Dates**

Office of National  
AIDS Policy Community  
Discussions

## ON THE WEB

*Healthy People 2020*  
Each decade, HHS updates *Healthy People*, the set of national objectives for promoting health and preventing disease. HHS is seeking public input on the draft objectives and topic areas for *Healthy People 2020*. Go online to [register](#) for one of the free local meetings or to submit your comments.