GOOD NEWS ON THE Stop TB USA FUNDING QUEST!

There have been many accomplishments since the inception of Stop TB USA (formerly the National TB Coalition or NCET). However, the Partnership has only been sustained through many volunteer efforts and the support of the American Thoracic Society which has resourced meeting expenses, advocacy, conference calls, and other administrative travel expenses when possible. No other resources have been available. As such, there has been no significant infrastructure support for the Partnership – the most critical example of that is that the Executive Director is currently a volunteer. This reliance on volunteer administrative efforts and lack of targeted resources has limited our ability to move the TB elimination initiative forward. For this reason, the Partnership has been seeking grants and exploring other funding in order to establish an infrastructure, a paid Executive Director, and to support related travel and operational expenses. We are happy to report that we have just been informed that the partnership has received a five-year grant (first year $96,817) from CDC to help support the partnership in conducting TB-related public and professional education and to provide a framework for increasing community participation for the national TB elimination effort, including formation of the National TB Patient Forum with emphasis on building awareness and participation of at risk populations. Additional nongovernmental grant and donor support is being sought and we expect additional favorable responses soon.

As noted by outgoing Chair Dr. John Bernardo at our June Annual Partnership meeting, stable funding support will enable Stop TB USA to move to implement the new Bylaws with support for travel and other costs related to new TB Patient Forum, the Coordinating Board, Partnership Committees, and Work Groups. It will also enable us to establish a formal paid Executive Director (initially part time) to undertake leadership of the organization along with the elected officers. As noted at the annual meeting, the officers identified an experienced nationally recognized TB leader to take the Executive Director position in Sue Etkind who has agreed to replace our long time volunteer Executive Director John Seggerson. John is now working with Sue who will soon assume the related responsibilities although John will remain involved and will support Sue and the officers as we move forward.
MOVING FORWARD ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW Stop TB USA BYLAWS.

The Stop TB USA Steering Committee has been meeting with monthly instead of quarterly conference calls. In addition to the good news above, we are making good progress with implementing the new bylaws, seeking additional funding, identifying new partners, creating the new TB Patients’ Forum, working with ATS on a new e-mail system and plans to update the website, and soliciting members for the new Coordinating Committee which will replace the Steering Committee. We will report in more detail of all of these activities in upcoming TB WRiEs.

***************************************************************************

INAUGURAL DR. JOHN SBARBARO LECTURE SERIES IN PUBLIC HEALTH: OCT. 2, 2012 – SPEAKER IS CDC DIRECTOR DR. THOMAS FRIEDEN.

The inaugural Dr. John Sbarbaro Lecture Series in Public Health will be held October 4, 2012 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Denver Art Museum, North Building, Acoma Plaza Entrance, Ponti Hall located at 100 West 14th Avenue Parkway in Denver, Colorado. We have been asked to thank all those who have donated to the lectureship. If you are thinking about attending, fall in Colorado is a beautiful time of the year and CDC’s Dr. Tom Frieden will be the lecturer!

Dr. John Sbarbaro was a pioneer in improving the health of the Denver and beyond. He started his career in public health and helped develop the mode of tuberculosis treatment (directly-observed therapy) that is now a core element in the global plan for that disease. He went on to help found Denver Community Health Services – the network of neighborhood health centers that has grown to provide high-quality medical care to one-third of Denver’s population – and managed the health care system that would become Denver Health. The lecture series honors Dr. Sbarbaro’s legacy of iconoclastic, innovative public health and highlights the need for creativity, courage, and innovation as we face the public health problems of today.

It is fitting and a great honor that the Dr. Thomas Frieden will be the first Sbarbaro lecturer. Dr. Frieden is the Director of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) – the nation’s health department. In his time as CDC Director, Dr. Frieden has brought a renewed focus on data-driven public health and has reinvigorated CDC programs for chronic illnesses. Before becoming CDC Director, Dr. Frieden was the Health Commissioner of New York City, and made the New York City Department of Public Health and Mental Hygiene one of the premier health departments in the country. Dr. Frieden started his career in public health in tuberculosis control during the large outbreaks of drug-resistant tuberculosis in New York City. In that role of TB Controller, one of his mentors was Dr. John Sbarbaro! Please RSVP at: https://www.event.com/events/dr-john-sbarbaro-lecture-in-public-health/registration-453d03fe38c34a05b276a250d80e930d.aspx

***************************************************************************

REMINDER: ABSTRACTS DUE OCTOBER 5 FOR NORTH AMERICAN UNION MEETING.
The 17th Annual Conference of the Union-North American Region is on for February 28 - March 2, 2013, in Vancouver, BC, Canada. The Union welcomes the submission of abstracts for poster and oral presentations of research on all aspects of tuberculosis control, including epidemiologic, clinical, basic science, nursing, social, behavioural, psychosocial and educational studies, as well as outcomes of program initiatives. Abstracts must be submitted in accordance with the guidelines. Information on the guidelines, copies of abstract submission forms, and travel grant information as well as registration information are all available from Dr. Menn Biagtan at e-mail: biagtan@bc.lung.ca (604.731.5864).

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AND SERVICE AWARDS.

The North American Region of The Union is calling for nominations for the Lifetime Achievement and Service Awards. Each year, the region recognizes the valuable contributions of our colleagues working in the field of tuberculosis control and prevention. If you are a member of The Union-North American Region and know someone from our region you believe is deserving of either award, please fill out the attached forms specifying the reasons for nominating the person and forward your nominations to Menn Biagtan at biagtan@bc.lung.ca by October 5, 2012.

SOUTHEAST TB CONTROLLERS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 23-26.

The Southeast National TB Controllers meeting will be held in Little Rock, AR next month (October 23-26). Here’s the link to get to the SETBC meeting information: http://sntc.medicine.ufl.edu/TrainingOther.aspx?Id=288


The American Thoracic Society (ATS) is accepting the submission of scientific abstracts and case report abstracts on all aspects of respiratory disease, critical care, and sleep medicine. Abstracts can report on basic, translational, and clinical science research; epidemiologic, social, biobehavioral, and psychosocial investigations; or educational and quality improvement projects. Scientific Abstracts: Research on respiratory disease, critical care and sleep medicine, including quality improvement projects. Case Reports: Interesting and unique reports describing a single clinical case. Membership in the ATS is not a prerequisite for participating in the program. The ATS International Conference Committee will plan the abstract and case report sessions based on those that are accepted. The International Conference Committee accepts abstracts based on submission criteria and relative merit. For information on submitting abstracts please check the following website: http://conference.thoracic.org/2013/Program/resources/abstract-form-submission-instructions.pdf

For information on submitting scientific abstracts and case reports, please contact the American Thoracic Society at conference@thoracic.org. SUBMISSION DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2012.
Note: At the American Thoracic Society (ATS) International Conference 2013 in Philadelphia (May 17-22, 2013), the programs will offer the latest information on clinical, basic and translational science in pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine. Traditionally there have been over 200 TB-related presentations and posters. For more information, please contact the Conference website www.thoracic.org/go/international-conference.

43rd Union World Conference on Lung Health - November 13-17, 2012 - Kuala Lumpur

The 43rd Union World Conference on Lung Health will be held at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 13–17 November 2012. This is one of the world’s major TB meetings. The conference theme this year is "Driving sustainability through mutual responsibility" which reflects the need for innovative financing and quality assurance mechanisms to ensure a sustainable response to today's health challenges. Conference sessions will emphasize that responsibility for achieving our common goals is shared not only by all those involved in health care and research, but also by donors, governments, policy-makers, civil society and affected communities. Together we will learn about the new developments, opportunities and challenges faced by countries around the world working to address tuberculosis, HIV, tobacco control, lung health and non-communicable diseases. With delegates from more than 120 countries, the conference community brings together all levels of caregivers, researchers and academicians, as well as civil society and the private sector for five days of discussion, debate and networking on these issues. For additional information about registration, etc., check the following website: http://kualalumpur2012.worldlunghealth.org/

REGIONAL TB TRAINING AND MEDICAL CONSULTATION CENTERS (RTMCCs)

The CDC funded Regional TB Training and Medical Consultation Centers (RTMCCs) provide free TB-related medical consultation, develop TB educational materials, and also provide training and technical assistance for TB program staff. The Centers are regionally assigned to cover all 50 states and U.S. territories. (Regional Tuberculosis Training and Medical Consultation Centers are obligated to prioritize participants from within their respective regions for training courses - but they may accept applicants from all areas when there is available space.) Updated information about upcoming TB training courses and available TB-related materials is available on each Center’s website. Listed below are some of the upcoming training courses.

Curry International Tuberculosis Center in San Francisco, California: Phone: 415-502-4600. Website: http://www.currytbcenter.ucsf.edu/index.cfm Medical consultation: 1-877-390-6682. (This Center serves the Western Region which consists of fifteen jurisdictions: Alaska, California (including Los Angeles, San Diego, and San Francisco), Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, and the U.S. Pacific Island Territories. The Center welcomes inquiries from Western Region partners regarding training, educational products, technical assistance, and medical consultation.)
**Tuberculosis Clinical Intensive**: September 11-13, 2012 San Francisco, CA. Three-day course.
Credit: This conference is approved for 19.50 continuing education hours (no prorated units available). The course is for physicians and other licensed medical professionals who diagnose and treat tuberculosis. The course covers: epidemiology of tuberculosis (TB); diagnosis, management, and treatment of TB; transmission and pathogenesis; TB and HIV coinfection; TB targeted testing and laboratory testing; pediatric TB; treatment of latent TB infection; multiple drug resistance; legal and ethical issues in TB control; and TB radiology. More information is available at: [http://www.currytbcenter.ucsf.edu/training/tb_clinical_intensive.cfm](http://www.currytbcenter.ucsf.edu/training/tb_clinical_intensive.cfm)

********************************************************************

**Tuberculosis Clinical Intensive**: October 3-4, 2012 Seattle, WA. This is a two-day intensive for physicians and other licensed medical professionals who diagnose and treat tuberculosis. More Information at: [http://www.currytbcenter.ucsf.edu/training/TBCISeattle12.cfm](http://www.currytbcenter.ucsf.edu/training/TBCISeattle12.cfm)

********************************************************************

**Tuberculosis Nursing Workshop**: October 5, 2012 Seattle, WA. One-day workshop.
Credit: This training is approved for up to 6.50 continuing education hours. The course is for nurses, communicable disease investigators, and other licensed medical care providers who work with tuberculosis patients. The course will cover: TB case studies related to case management/contact investigation basics; immigrant and refugees screening; case management process; working with community partners for TB control, and legal and ethical issues. More information is available at: [http://www.currytbcenter.ucsf.edu/training/TBNWSeattle12.cfm](http://www.currytbcenter.ucsf.edu/training/TBNWSeattle12.cfm)

********************************************************************

**Tuberculosis Program Manager's Intensive**: October 30 - November 2, 2012 San Francisco, CA. Four-day intensive for nurses, physicians, and other health professionals working as tuberculosis program managers. Credit: This training is approved for up to 22.25 continuing education contact hours. The training covers (partial list): the role of the program manager; gathering, analyzing and interpreting TB case data and using this data to plan and guide your program; contact investigation; cohort reviews; genotyping; TB outbreaks; quality assurance; infection control; program planning; and program evaluation. More information is available at: [http://www.currytbcenter.ucsf.edu/training/tbpmi12.cfm](http://www.currytbcenter.ucsf.edu/training/tbpmi12.cfm)

********************************************************************

**Ask the Expert Webinar: Clinical Conundrums in LTBI**: December 18, 2012 via the web. 2-hour online workshop. Credit: This training is approved for up to 2.0 continuing education hours. The course is for MDs, nurses, communicable disease investigators, and other licensed medical care providers who work with patients at risk for TB infection. The course will cover some of the issues around LTBI diagnosis and treatment that may not be addressed in national guidelines. A panel of experts will share their opinions of best practices around questions such as: “Is an IGRA appropriate for a child less than 5 with a history of BCG?,” “Does incomplete LTBI treatment increase the risk of INH resistance?,” “What do I tell my patient who asks if occasional alcohol during treatment for LTBI is okay?”, and others. The panel will also field questions from the audience. More information will be available by October 3 at: [http://www.currytbcenter.ucsf.edu/](http://www.currytbcenter.ucsf.edu/)

********************************************************************

For additional information about additional courses, webinars and products from the Curry Center, please visit: [http://www.currytbcenter.ucsf.edu/](http://www.currytbcenter.ucsf.edu/).
New Jersey Medical School Global Tuberculosis Institute in Newark, New Jersey: Phone: 973-972-3270. Medical Consultation: 1-800-482-3627. Website: http://www.umdnj.edu/globaltb/home.htm (This Center serves the Northeastern region which includes: Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont and West Virginia, including the cities of Baltimore, Detroit, New York City and Philadelphia.)

**************************************************************

**TB Intensive Workshop:** This is a CNE/CME Certified Activity. Course locations: (Course 1 - October 2-5, 2012) at the New Jersey Medical School Global TB Institute, 225 Warren Street, Newark, New Jersey October 2-5, 2012; and (Course 2 - October 4-5) in Lansing, Michigan. The purpose of this training is to provide clinicians with comprehensive information on the management and treatment of TB. Topics will include epidemiology, transmission & pathogenesis, diagnosis and treatment of TB, TB in children and adolescents, multi-drug resistant tuberculosis, TB/HIV co-infection, surgical treatment of TB, infection control, and key aspects of patient management. The format includes lectures, discussions, small group work, and case studies. More information at:
http://www.umdnj.edu/globaltb/courses/brochures/2012/tbintensive-fall.html

**************************************************************

**Making Strides Toward TB Elimination:** CNE/CME Certified Activity. October 18, 2012. Course Location: Holiday Inn, 201 Washington Avenue, North Haven, CT. This conference will provide updates on TB, including: an overview of current TB control practices; program collaboration & service integration; best practices in diagnosis & treatment of latent TB infection; cultural competency; and case presentations. This forum will provide an opportunity to network with colleagues conducting TB control activities. The format includes lectures, discussions, and case studies. Who should attend? TB control staff, clinicians, public and school nurses, and other health care workers who work with TB patients or patients at-risk for TB infection and disease. The course is jointly sponsored by the New Jersey Medical School Global Tuberculosis Institute and the Connecticut Department of Public Health, and UMDNJ—Center for Continuing & Outreach Education. More information is available at:
http://www.umdnj.edu/globaltb/courses/brochures/2012/makingstrides.html

**************************************************************

**Tuberculosis: Old Challenges, New Solutions:** October 25, 2012. Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel, 40 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie, NY. The purpose of this training is to increase provider awareness and knowledge of tuberculosis, including: new treatment options for latent TB infection: issues related to interjurisdictional collaboration; laboratory techniques used to diagnose TB; use of Inter-FERON Gamma Release Assays (IGRA); and TB & Diabetes. This training utilizes lectures and case-based presentations. Who should attend? This training is designed for physicians, nurses, and other healthcare professionals working in the state of New York who are involved in the management of patients with tuberculosis. Sponsored by the New York State Department of Health – Bureau of TB Control and the New Jersey Medical School Global Tuberculosis Institute. More information at:
http://www.umdnj.edu/globaltb/courses/brochures/2012/oldchallenges-fall.html

**************************************************************

**Vermont TB Update:** Date: November 13, 2012. Location: Burlington, VT. This one day training is intended for Public Health Nurses involved in the management of tuberculosis, and
the course will cover topics pertinent to TB control in a low incidence setting. For more
information, please contact Nickolette Gaglia at ngaglia@hria.org.

****************************************************************

TB Technical Instructions for Panel Physicians - Implications for U.S. Practitioners; A
National Web-Based Seminar; A CME-Certified Activity. 1:00 pm–2:30 pm EST. November
28, 2012. This web-based seminar will cover the new tuberculosis technical instructions for
panel physicians and the implications for United States (US) practitioners. Case presentations
will explore adoptees, drug resistant TB, and the severely ill. This web-based seminar is
designed for physicians and other health care providers who manage TB patients, as well as
those who work in refugee and immigrant health. Why is this course needed? Every year
approximately 400,000 immigrants and 50,000 refugees enter the United States. The Technical
Instructions, initiated in 1991, contain the requirements for overseas medical evaluation,
including tuberculosis screening. New Technical Instructions are available and have important
implications for US practitioners. Sponsored by the New Jersey Medical School Global
Tuberculosis Institute. For more information, please contact Rajita Bhavaraju at (973) 972-4811
or email at: rajita.bhavaraju@umdnj.edu

********************************************************************

For more information about additional courses, webinars and products from the Global TB
Institute, please visit: http://www.umdnj.edu/globaltb/home.htm

*********************************************************************

The Southeastern National Tuberculosis Center in Gainesville, Florida: Phone:
1-888-265-7682. Website: http://sntc.medicine.ufl.edu/. Medical Consultation: 1-800-4TB-
INFO. (This Center serves the Southeastern Region which consists of: Alabama, Arkansas,
Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee,
Virginia, and Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin islands.)

********************************************************************

Comprehensive Clinical TB Course: Dates: December 3-6, 2012. Time: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM.
Location: Gainesville, Florida. The course is designed for physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and
field staff who are interested in a multidisciplinary approach to tuberculosis care. Participants
must have a basic knowledge of tuberculosis. This four-day intensive course will familiarize the
attendees with all the aspects of tuberculosis infection, disease and clinical care using an
interdisciplinary and interactive approach. The curriculum is provided through lecture,
interactive case management sessions. The faculty is selected for their unique skill in
encouraging interaction and building rapport with participants. The atmosphere is relaxed with
an expectation that a free exchange of questions, comments and information will occur. For
more information more information, contact Karen Simpson at 888-265-7682 or e-mail
(karen.simpson@medicine.ufl.edu) or go to the website at:
%20Comprehensive%20Clinical%20TB%20Course%20Generic%20Flyer%20-%
%20with%20CME%20%26%20CE%2020120730%201509.pdf

********************************************************************

Tuberculin Skin Test Train-the-Trainer Course: Seven Continuing Education Credits. Date:
December 7, 2012. Location: Southeastern National Tuberculosis Center, Gainesville, Florida.
This one-day skill-building course provides the knowledge needed to plan, teach, and evaluate a
Mantoux Tuberculin Skin Test (TST) course. The course content includes skills for planning and
conducting a TST training, including adult learning principles and teaching strategies. The
course is designed for nurses who are proficient in administering and reading TSTs and who are responsible for training others in tuberculin skin testing. This course is not intended for those learning how to perform TSTs. More information is available at: https://www.ahecregistration.org/files/494_2012%20-%20TST%20TTT%20Generic%20-%20with%20CE%20done%20by%20Simpson%20120910.pdf

For more information about additional courses, webinars and products from this Southeastern Center, please visit: http://sntc.medicine.ufl.edu/.

The Heartland National Tuberculosis Center in San Antonio, Texas: Phone: 1-800-TEX-LUNG. Website: http://www.heartlandntbc.org. Medical Consultation: 210-531-4500. Administration/Training: 210-531-4590. (This Center serves the Southwestern region which includes the following states: Arizona, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin.)

TB Nurse Case Management (Introduction to Basics): Oct 4, 11, 25, 2012. This is an Online Course: This course is intended for nurses and public health staff who are actively engaged in the identification, case management, and treatment of patients with tuberculosis infection or disease. Download the PDF Brochure (331 KB) at: http://www.heartlandntbc.org. Apply at: http://www.heartlandntbc.org/register.asp?courseSessionId=283 Or contact: jessica.quintero@uthct.edu

Understanding the IGRA: What you need to know: October 19, 2012. Location: McKinney, Texas. This course is intended for nurses and public health staff who are actively engaged in the identification, case management, and treatment of patients with tuberculosis infection or disease. For information contact: robert.petrossian@uthct.edu. Download the PDF Brochure at: http://www.heartlandntbc.org/training/brochure_mckinney_tx_oct_19_2012.pdf. Apply at: http://www.heartlandntbc.org/register.asp?courseSessionId=301

TB in Correctional Facilities: November 28, 2012: Albuquerque, New Mexico. This course is designed for clinicians, registered nurses, and other health care professionals who are tasked with the management of tuberculosis in correctional facilities at the local, state and federal level. Contact: Samuel.Caballero@uthct.edu. Download the PDF Brochure at: http://www.heartlandntbc.org/register.asp?courseSessionId=300

TB Intensive: December 5-6, 2012. San Antonio, Texas. This course is designed for physicians and nurse experts who are actively engaged in the management of patients with, or at risk, of tuberculosis. Download the PDF Brochure (391 KB) at: http://www.heartlandntbc.org/training/brochure_san_antonio_tbin_05_dec_2012.pdf. Contact: jessica.quintero@uthct.edu

For more information about additional courses, webinars and products from the Heartland Center, please visit: http://www.heartlandntbc.org/