



For Immediate Release
April 22, 2010

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Public housing residents, leaders support smoke-free home environments

U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius to highlight Chicago Housing Authority's involvement in \$11.5 million Chicago Tobacco Prevention Project

WHO: Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Dr. Bechara Choucair, Commissioner, Chicago Department of Public Health
Joel Africk, President and CEO, Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago
Lewis Jordan, CEO, Chicago Housing Authority
Deverra Beverly, Commissioner, Chicago Housing Authority Board / ABLA Homes Resident
Ron Sims, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

WHAT: **Press availability (remarks, Q&A with Secretary Sebelius et al)** regarding the Communities Putting Prevention to Work national initiative, Chicago Tobacco Prevention Project and local plans for implementation.

Led by Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago, the project will train local residents to become smoking cessation counselors and smoke-free advocates in their neighborhoods. Partnership with the Chicago Housing Authority is just one component of this \$11.5 million project, which aims to reduce smoking rates and exposure to secondhand smoke over the next two years. The project is part of the nationwide "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" initiative of the Department of Health and Human Services and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Fact sheets and additional information at: www.lungchicago.org/ctpp

WHEN: Thursday, April 22, 2010
3:15 p.m.

WHERE: Roosevelt Square neighborhood (outdoor location)
1208 W. Grenshaw Street – intersection of Grenshaw and Racine
Chicago, IL 60608-1414

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Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago has been a public health leader in local communities since 1906. Today the association supports research, policies and educational outreach aimed at fighting lung disease and promoting healthy lungs in an effort to reduce the burden of lung diseases such as lung cancer, asthma and COPD (chronic bronchitis and emphysema).