



American Public Health Association

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Georges C. Benjamin, MD, FACP
Executive Director

February 23, 2005

Van Reiner
Executive Director and CEO
Maryland Science Center
601 Light Street
Baltimore, MD 21230

REMINDER: National Public Health Week is April 4-10

Dear Mr. Reiner:

As you may know, each year the American Public Health Association (APHA) joins with local and national public health groups to celebrate the first week in April as National Public Health Week (NPHW). This year's theme is "Empowering Americans to Live Stronger, Longer." Public health advancements and new treatment options are enabling Americans to live longer. The average life expectancy in the United States is now 74 years for men and 78 years for women — nearly a 30-year improvement since 1900.

Despite these gains, our continuing mission is as important as ever. As Americans live longer lives, our job is to help them live healthier lives as well.

I write today to encourage the Maryland Science Center to partner with local public health groups to commemorate NPHW. APHA's National Public Health Week database can identify public health groups in the Baltimore area that might be interested in working with the Maryland Science Center to plan an NPHW event.

Claudia Menashe, Director of the National Public Health Partnership at the National Health Museum in Washington, DC, can also help with collaboration. She can be reached at 202-737-2670, or cmenashe@nationalhealthmuseum.org.

For more information and ideas about how to participate in NPHW, please take a moment to review APHA's Web site at <http://www.apha.org/nphw/>. This site was developed to assist communities with planning NPHW activities and includes additional facts about the theme, a toolkit and planner's guide for the week, and much more. It also provides an easy means for you to set up a temporary promotional link from your Web site to the NPHW Web site. I've also enclosed a handout with NPHW event and program ideas.

I hope you find this information useful. Your commitment to providing reliable public health and science information to your visitors and community is greatly appreciated. It is my hope that you will further this commitment by commemorating National Public Health Week 2005 at the Maryland Science Center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Georges C. Benjamin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "G" and "B".

Georges C. Benjamin, MD, FACP

Enclosures

