Santa Barbara County Celebrates World TB Day
Stop TB—In My Lifetime

Each year Santa Barbara County recognizes March 24th, World TB Day, as a day to raise awareness of tuberculosis disease in our community and world-wide. World TB day commemorates the date in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of the bacteria that causes tuberculosis. On March 20, 2012, this day will be celebrated at the Board of Supervisor’s meeting with Supervisor Lavagnino presenting the award.

Although tuberculosis cases are slowly declining in the United States, the need to sustain adequate resources and partnerships toward TB awareness and elimination remains. Multi-drug resistant tuberculosis, a life threatening form of tuberculosis, is a growing concern especially in this era of global migration. It is only by early detection and treatment of tuberculosis cases that our communities can realize a lifetime without tuberculosis.

- Each year 9-million people become ill with TB, 2 million people die world-wide, and one-third of the world’s population is infected with TB.
- In 2011, there were 2,317 active TB and 33 Multi-Drug Resistant cases reported in California; with 21 active cases and one Multi-Drug Resistant case occurring in Santa Barbara County.
- In 2011, the Santa Barbara County Disease Control staff evaluated 147 persons with significant exposure to active TB cases to prevent further spread of TB.
- The Santa Barbara County Disease Control continues working collaboratively with community partners to identify and treat high-risk contacts and active tuberculosis cases.

Santa Barbara County Public Health Department is committed to global efforts that aim for zero deaths and freedom from tuberculosis in our community and worldwide.

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