Press Release

Direct Relief and Public Health Host
Community Forum on Zika Virus

The Direct Relief Women from Direct Relief, in conjunction with the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department, are holding a Community Forum on the Zika Virus. The forum is scheduled for April 5, 2016, 6:00 pm, at the Cabrillo Pavilion Arts Center, (1118 East Cabrillo Boulevard, Santa Barbara.) Members of the community are invited to RSVP and attend this free event.

The Zika Virus is impacting people around the world. With the summer season approaching an increase in temperatures and mosquitoes is expected. This is an important health issue locally and globally.

Featured speakers at the community forum are local experts including:
- Dr. Alex Soffici, High Risk Obstetrics Specialist;
- Dr. Charity Dean, Health Officer, Santa Barbara County Public Health Department;
- David Chang, General Manager of the Mosquito and Vector Management District of Santa Barbara County; and,
- Andrew MacCalla, M.P.P., Director of International Programs and Emergency.

Our expert forum presenters will speak about:
- The global outbreak of the Zika Virus: challenges to Public Health
- Guidance for pregnant women and women of reproductive age traveling to Zika-impacted areas
- Congenital Zika infection and microcephaly, and risk of other neurologic abnormalities
- Control of the Aedes mosquito
- Direct Relief’s response domestically and internationally

Anyone wishing to attend the forum is asked to register by sending an email to: sklein@sbcphd.org

###