January 27, 2011

TO: Each Health Deputy

FROM: Jonathan Fielding, M.D., M.P.H. 2/1/11
Director and Health Officer

SUBJECT: LOS ANGELES COUNTY HEALTH AND EXAMINATION SURVEY

This is to notify you that in February 2011, the Department of Public Health will commence with a pilot project entitled, the Los Angeles County Health and Examination Survey (LA HANES). The purpose of this pilot project is to augment and evaluate the potential health impacts of the obesity prevention efforts developed and implemented by the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA)-funded Renew Environments for Nutrition, Exercise, and Wellness in Los Angeles County (RENEW LAC) initiative. This pilot project is part of a $1.77 million grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

LA HANES will help establish a local health profile description of adult obesity and related cardiovascular disease risk factors by collecting information on height, weight, waist circumference, and other physical measurements (e.g., blood pressure) from a sample of men and women in the county. These data will provide much needed information on adult overweight/obesity trends and will help inform and further advance public education and chronic disease prevention efforts in Los Angeles County. The intent of LA HANES is to provide high quality health assessment and surveillance information about adult obesity for local planning purposes.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact Dr. Paul Simon, Director of the Division of Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention at (213) 351-7825.

JEF:tk

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