

Dover Takes on the Escalating Diabetes Epidemic via Diabetes Nation: America At Risk Listening Tour

Bayhealth Medical Center and the American Diabetes Association, DelMar Region Join Forces with TCOYD and NMQF to Address the Impact and Implications of Diabetes on Oct. 3

WHAT: Bayhealth Medical Center and the American Diabetes Association, DelMar Region are proud to represent Dover by hosting a listening tour presented by Taking Control of Your Diabetes (TYOCD) and the National Minority Quality Forum (NMQF). The Diabetes Nation: America At Risk listening tour is part of a national campaign to elevate diabetes as a national health priority.

As numbers of people with uncontrolled diabetes escalate and billions continue to be spent, the listening tour will focus on shifting the current dialogue to one that includes diabetes prevention, treatment and management. It is aimed at examining local initiatives, assessing what works and what could improve, and seeing what the nation could learn from local efforts to help improve the epidemic of uncontrolled diabetes.

Diabetes is a chronic public health problem in the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) the number of Americans with diabetes tripled from 5.6 million in 1980 to 16.8 million in 2006.^[i] Just two years later, the CDC released statistics showing that nearly 24 million Americans are affected by diabetes—meaning nearly eight percent of the U.S. population had diabetes.^[ii]

WHY: The purpose of the listening tour is to rally local communities like Dover, where diabetes has impacted local residents, and to work toward finding solutions to address uncontrolled diabetes, treatment and management. Listening tour participants will be able to assess how to incorporate prevention, early treatment and effective disease management as part of defining a new model to help to better serve people impacted by diabetes.

Convening in December in Washington, D.C., the listening tour outcomes will be presented at a National Conference on Diabetes to private and public stakeholders in an effort to help control one of the most costly diseases, and come to an understanding that better disease management and awareness may help improve quality of life.

WHEN: **Saturday, Oct. 3, 2009**
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Media interviews are available beginning Monday, Sept. 28

WHERE: **Sheraton Hotel in Dover, Del.**
Venetian Ballroom
1570 North Dupont Highway
Dover, Del. 19901

WHO: **Interviews are available with the following people:**

- Steven V. Edelman, M.D., founder and director, TCOYD
- Gary A. Puckrein, Ph.D., president and chief executive officer, NMQF

To schedule an interview or for more information, please contact: Erin Davis

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