

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

342  
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**FROM:** Community Health Agency Department of Public Health

**SUBMITTAL DATE:**  
March 24, 2006

**SUBJECT:** Sexually Transmitted Diseases Awareness (STD) Month, April 2006

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors proclaim April 2006 as STD Awareness Month and endorse the strategies in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) plan for elimination of syphilis in the United States and approve the attached proclamation.

Departmental Concurrence

**BACKGROUND:** California has experienced its fourth consecutive year of increased primary & secondary (P&S) syphilis cases. Locally in Riverside County, the number of infectious syphilis cases has risen from 19 in 2000 to 168 in 2005. Syphilis increases the risk of HIV transmission by three to four times. Therefore, the resurgence of syphilis requires that public and private health care providers, individual citizens and government agencies have an increased awareness of the seriousness of this disease. It is also important to address the ongoing problem with other sexually transmitted diseases such as chlamydia, gonorrhea, and hepatitis B. Outreach and education emphasizing safer sex practices is essential to reduce the impact of the diseases on women of child bearing age.

BC:ab

*Susan D. Harrington*  
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Susan Harrington, Director  
Department of Public Health

<b>FINANCIAL DATA</b>	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 0	In Current Year Budget:	05/06
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 0	Budget Adjustment:	0
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 0	For Fiscal Year:	0

<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS:</b>	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:** **APPROVE**

**County Executive Office Signature** *Dan Marting*

- Policy
- Consent
- Dept't Recomm.:
- Per Exec. Ofc.:

3000 VBB -2 WH11: P3  
RECEIVED RIVERSIDE COUNTY

**Prev. Agn. Ref.:** | **District:** | **Agenda Number:**

Whereas, chlamydia is the most commonly reported communicable disease in Riverside County and 75% of chlamydia cases are among teenage girls and young adult women; and

Whereas, infectious syphilis in Riverside County has increased 10 fold since the initial outbreak in 2000; and

Whereas, Riverside County has the highest rate of primary and secondary syphilis cases per capita in California, which increases the sexual transmission of HIV; and

Whereas, in 2005, 72% of persons diagnosed with primary or secondary syphilis were also living with HIV within Riverside County; and

Whereas, Riverside County encourages primary and secondary prevention of chlamydia and gonorrhea and their complications through collaborative efforts with entities such as Juvenile Detention Health Services; and

Whereas, Riverside County encourages strong public and private collaborative health promotion efforts, such as the Syphilis Elimination Task Force, to prevent and treat sexually transmitted diseases: and

NOW, THEREFORE, let it be known that the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, hereby proclaims April 2006 as STD Awareness Month, and commends the dedication of the Disease Control STD Program to continue to facilitate education and treatment of infected residents to decrease transmission of these debilitating diseases.