



June 3, 2008

Dear Colleagues:

Regular physical activity is essential for health and quality of life. However, more than half of American adults do not engage in enough physical activity to receive health benefits. Attached is a call to action for public health professionals titled ***The Critical Need for Public Health Leadership and Capacity to Improve Health through Physical Activity***. The national organizations comprising the Physical Activity Collaborative encourage you to share and discuss this paper in your organization and with other public health professionals. Members of PAC include:

- Directors of Health Promotion & Education
- National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
- National Society of Physical Activity Practitioners in Public Health

PAC is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Physical Activity & Health Branch, Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity. PAC also has a liaison with the Association of State and Territorial Public Health Nutrition Directors.

During organizational strategic planning in 2007, PAC identified a need to describe elements of public health infrastructure and leadership necessary for successful public health physical activity programs. The result is this paper, which outlines strategies to ensure capacity in your state. To share comments regarding the call to action, feel free to contact one of the PAC representatives below.

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