

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Alice Alecu
Alice.Alecu@menshealthnetwork.org
 [\(202\) 543-6461 ext. 101](tel:(202)543-6461)

Gov. Bentley Issues Proclamation for Alabama Men's Health Week – June 10-16, 2013

(Washington, DC) – Governor Robert J. Bentley issued a proclamation designating the week leading up to and including Father's Day, as *Alabama Men's Health Week*. This is a special awareness period to help educate men, boys and their families about the importance of positive health attitudes and preventive health practices.

“Alabamians are encouraged to increase awareness of the importance of a healthy lifestyle, regular exercise and medical checkups,” the proclamation said. **“Educating the public and health care providers about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and early detection of male health problems will result in reducing mortality rates from disease.”**

The Proclamation said that the Alabama Department of Public Health will hold a symposium June 12, 2013, at the Alabama State University in Montgomery featuring speakers from Jackson Hospital, Auburn University at Montgomery and Alabama Department of Public Health.

“We'd like to thank the governor for recognizing June 10-16 as Alabama Men's Health Week,” said Ana Fadich, MHN Vice President. **“We hope that by raising awareness about the health and wellbeing of men and boys around Father's Day, they will be more likely to take action and set a doctor's appointment in June.”**

In preparation for Alabama Men's Health Week, MHN encourages citizens of Alabama, men in particular, but also women and their families, to participate in the many activities and events, which will focus on men's health during the week of June 10-16. Men's Health Week is part of Men's Health Month which is sponsored by AbbVie, Auxilium, Pfizer, and MHN. To check for health events in your area, visit www.menshealthmonth.org.

“This is an important step in addressing the health needs of the men of Alabama, a particularly high risk population for diseases such as cancer, cardiovascular disease

and diabetes,” said Dr. Susan A. Milstein, Montgomery College Professor, adjunct professor at George Washington University, and MHN Board of Advisors member. **By specifically focusing on preventive care, this will help men, their spouses, their families and society as a whole. This event, and others like it, helps raise awareness about key men's health issues.”**

National [Men's Health Week](#), sponsored by Senator Bob Dole and Congressman Bill Richardson, passed Congress and was signed into law by President Clinton, on May 31, 1994.

Men's Health Week is organized by [Men's Health Network](#) (MHN), a national non-profit organization whose mission is to reach men, boys, and their families where they live, work, play, and pray with health prevention messages and tools, screening programs, educational materials, advocacy opportunities, and patient navigation. Learn more about MHN at www.menshealthnetwork.org and follow them on Twitter @MensHlthNetwork and facebook.com/menshealthnetwork

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