Making Health a Priority – National Public Health Week

This week April 4-8 is National Public Health Week. Join us in making health in the County of San Bernardino a priority. The Department of Public Health (DPH) has several programs and initiatives working to expand health care services, develop healthier communities and make community health education available to all throughout the year.

Public Health worked with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration to designate the Adelanto, Hesperia, San Bernardino and Ontario health centers as Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC). This allows for affordable preventative and primary care services for uninsured and underinsured county residents. Visit one of Health Centers during National Public Health Week or call 1-800-722-4777.

Building a county of safe and healthy communities is a focus of the Healthy Communities (HC) program. HC collaborates with cities and towns to develop long-term health improvement strategies that local jurisdictions can implement. “Health is more than public health programs, it involves the community, where we live, our neighborhoods and economy,” said Dr. Ohikhuare, County Health Officer, “I encourage residents to engage in their city’s Healthy Communities program and have a voice in how health policy is formed in their community.”

Public Health provides several prevention programs that offer services to the community. The HIV program provides free rapid testing and STD testing. The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program has offices throughout the County providing nutrition information and vouchers for food. The Division of Environmental Health Services protects the health of the County by inspecting facilities for food safety. The Animal Care and Control Division helps by providing pet adoptions, dog license and spay/neutering vouchers.

The Black Infant Health program is a program that provides prenatal and postnatal sessions aiming to improve the health and reduce disparities by empowering pregnant and mothering African-American women. The Baby’s Optimum Nutrition with Ultimate Support (BONUS) program’s main goal is to increase the number of babies exclusively breastfeeding for six months or longer. For more information please call (909) 388-5676.

Join Public Health as we strengthen, promote, and protect the health of the County. Public Health staff participate in various Public Health Resource Exhibits throughout the County, promoting programs and services available to the community rallying around the 2016 NPHW theme “A Goal of Making the U.S. the Healthiest Nation in One Generation – by 2030.” The NPHW goal supports the overall Countywide Vision for a healthy San Bernardino County.

For more information or to access public health services contact the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Health at 1(800) 782-4264 or visit our website at www.sbcounty.gov/dph.