



July 26, 2005

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **Students Get Exposure to Careers in the Health Profession**

*Over 200 students from across the U.S. to participate*

A group of over 200 students from across the nation will have an opportunity to explore their interests in science, medicine and health during the 2005 National Health Careers Exploring Exposition next week in Bethesda, Maryland. The event, held at the National Institute of Health (NIH) and Uniformed Services University (USU), is sponsored by the *Learning for Life* organization, whose mission is to help students K-12 and post secondary age make the best career and character choices for themselves.

Reaching students at this stage of their lives is important for their development. "These kids are on the cusp of trying to determine what career they want to pursue," said David N. Sundwall, M.D., Chair of the National Health Careers Exploring Committee and Executive Director, Utah Department of Health. "They will get a better feel for the profession that best suits them by exploring all aspects of the health professions."

Beginning the program on August 4, 2005, representatives from the fields of optometry, osteopathic medicine, podiatric medicine, chiropractic medicine, nursing, dentistry and veterinary medicine among others, will work with students in a variety of venues. Through panel discussions and information sessions, students will get a sense of what they need to be doing now in order to prepare for the future, including how to pay for college and academic requirements. Each student will have valuable face-to-face time to ask prominent professionals questions about their field of interest as well as the opportunity to tour research labs and libraries at NIH for an up close look at the direction their career path could take them. Some sightseeing is also slated for them, along with a visit to the Marine Barracks Parade, to top off an engaging and informative visit to our nation's capitol.

**WHO:** High school and post secondary school students

**WHEN:** August 4-7, 2005, 8 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Natcher Center, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD  
Building B, Uniformed Services University, Bethesda, MD

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Learning for Life offers classroom-based programs that provide an action-learning process with grade-specific lesson plans for grades K through 12, plus a complete supplement for special-needs students. Learning for Life helps youth develop social and life skills, assist in character development, and helps them formulate positive personal values.