November 2, 2011

Dear Program Champion,

It is with great pleasure that we share with you the Pediatric Public Health residency curriculum guide. In 2008, as part of UCLA’s primary care residency training grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)’s Bureau of Health Professions, we led an effort to develop a national pediatric public health residency curriculum to support the education of pediatric residents to understand the intersection between pediatric primary care and public health in order to respond to health issues affecting children and families. In 2009-2010, more than 50 national experts in pediatric public health participated in the development of the curriculum. In 2010-2011, six residency programs participated in a pilot of the curriculum, and data were collected on an additional five residency programs that served as comparison sites. All of the participants are listed in the attachment to this letter.

The Pediatric Public Health curriculum guide aims to help pediatric program directors include population-based educational activities in their residency curricula to enhance clinical practice and meet the educational goals of residency training (i.e., ACGME competencies). The curriculum guide has two unique features: (1) the curriculum is written in such a way that it is “adaptable” – it can be implemented in pediatric, family medicine, and medicine-pediatrics residency programs, and (2) the curriculum is written with particular attention to issues of culture and socioeconomic issues to provide specific information to physicians-in-training working with racially, ethnically and socio-economically diverse populations. The curriculum guide has knowledge- and practice-based objectives in the core content areas of knowledge, clinical practice and advocacy. The overall curriculum guide was modeled after the breastfeeding curriculum developed by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the UCLA Fit for Residents obesity prevention residency curriculum.

A Pediatric Public Health Toolkit was created that includes a compilation of materials developed and assembled as residency programs piloted the Pediatric Public Health curriculum guide into their respective programs. We hope this will help provide you with tools and resources so you can incorporate a Pediatric Public Health curriculum into your residency training program.

What can be found in the Pediatric Public Health Curriculum Toolkit?

- A step-by-step approach to guide the planning and implementation of a pediatric
public health curriculum for residency training programs.
• Resources and activities to guide the planning and implementation of a pediatric public health curriculum for residency training programs, as well as tools to measure residents’ attitudes and knowledge.

We would like to acknowledge the members of our Advisory Board and Workgroups who developed the curriculum guide, all of the champions at the resident sites and our program staff that participated in the Pediatric Public Health Pilot project for their hard work and vision. We give a special thanks to Russell Vastano, our project coordinator, who kept this curriculum moving forward. Finally, we thank HRSA for funding this project. Their vision and belief in the project allows us to train the next generation of physicians to apply public health principles in the pediatric primary care setting.

Sincerely,

Alice Kuo, MD, PhD
Associate Professor, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics and Health Services

Wendy Slusser, MD, MS
Associate Clinical Professor of Pediatrics

Alma Guerrero, MD, MPH
Assistant Clinical Professor of Pediatrics