



December 2016

Dear Partner in California TB Elimination Efforts,

Tuberculosis (TB) is currently the leading infectious disease killer in the world, killing 1.5 million people in 2014, per the World Health Organization. In 2015, 2137 Californians were diagnosed with TB disease. TB disease kills approximately 10% of those diagnosed with it in California each year. And lastly, 2.4 million Californians are estimated to have TB infection today. They are not sick with TB disease or contagious with TB disease. Some of these Californians with TB infection are much more likely to develop TB disease in the future and spreading it in their communities. We must find these individuals and treat their TB infection before TB disease develops to eliminate the threat of TB in California.

To this end, the California TB Controllers Association (CTCA) Executive Committee invites you to join us in forming a California TB Elimination Coalition. Our goal is to increase the identification and treatment of people infected with TB likely to develop TB disease in their lifetime to prevent future cases of TB in California. Additional resources are needed in local health departments to work on TB elimination. Some education of policy leaders at the local, state, and national level will be supported by the coalition.

The California Department of Public Health TB Control Branch, in partnership with the Curry International TB Resource Center, community providers and stakeholders in the care and control of TB, along with CTCA to develop the [California Tuberculosis Risk Assessment, Adults](#) and the [California TB Elimination Plan 2016-2020](#), two important tools for working toward TB elimination in California.

Please join us in using and promoting these tools, and invite your colleagues to join us as well.

Email/Fax jthigpen@ctca.org / 888-535-2822 to join a California TB Elimination Coalition. Send us your ideas for spreading the messages of TB Elimination, partners to invite to join a coalition and things you may need to help with your TB elimination efforts, and we will send you ours.

In partnership and on behalf of the [CTCA Executive Committee](#).

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Use the: [California TB Risk Assessment](#)