## Attachment 8. Communications Plan

Anniston Community Health Survey: Follow-up Study and Dioxin Analyses

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Attachment 8.1

Anniston Community Health Survey: Follow-up Study and Dioxin Analyses

**Communications Plan**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Objectives** | **Activities/Methods** | **Responsible participant** | **Timetable** | **Objectives achieved** |
| Objective 1: |  |  |  |  |
| Identify and establish relationship with project stakeholders | * Establish and maintain collaborative partnership and alliances with local community groups and civic organizations
* Develop plan to provide project updates
* Establish and maintain links with community leaders and elected officials
 | The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) and the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) principal investigators (PI) | OngoingOngoingAfter Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval | Met with community groups, West Anniston Foundation representatives, and Calhoun County Health Department (CCHD) director and staff in April 2012. Provided detailed information on planned study. Received extensive input from the community and from the first Anniston study project director.Updated all Anniston parties bi-monthly either via e-mail or personal phone call. |
| Objective 2: |  |  |  |  |
| Develop and present project-related information | * Develop study-related information materials, forms, and reports for participants; submit materials, etc., for IRB and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) review
* Describe planned activities for the study at informal meetings in Anniston at civic or community clubs or other functions
* Obtain comments on presenting study information to Anniston Community Health Survey (ACHS) participants from Anniston community groups and others
* Describe project activities at professional scientific meetings
 | ATSDR, UAB PIs, study investigators | Ongoing After the IRB approval | IRB and OMB approvals pending.Set up meeting with West Anniston Foundation representatives and members of the board.Set up meetings with community representatives via Shirley Carter.Set up meetings with Jacksonville State Associate Dean, Dr. Christie Shelton.  |
| Objective 3: |  |  |  |  |
| Develop and establish media relations | * Study PIs and staff have regularly participated in local radio programs describing results of the first Anniston study
* Use contacts from the first Anniston study to contact local press
* Publish information about upcoming health study
 | Study PIs and co-PIs | OngoingOngoingAfter the OMB approval | Call or meet the press and local radio and television representatives. |
| Objective 4: |  |  |  |  |
| Organize community meeting for former participants to announce the study | * Mail invitation letters and study fact sheet to participants
* Organize a public meeting in the Carver Center or other suitable venue
* Use West Anniston Foundation and local contacts to distribute material about upcoming meeting.
 | UAB, Study PIs, study staff | After OMB approval2 months after OMB approval | Provide a forum for potential participants to find out more about the study and have study investigators answer questions. |
|  |  |  |  |  |

Attachment 8.2

Anniston Community Health Survey: Follow-up Study and Dioxin Analyses

**Press Release**

The Calhoun County Health Department (CCHD) is pleased to announce the Anniston Community Health Survey: Follow-up Study and Dioxin Analyses. We are working with a research team composed of representatives from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). NIH and ATSDR are funding a new polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) study in Anniston.

We are trying to reach all the people who were part of the first Anniston PCB Health Study during 2005–2007 and had PCBs in their blood measured. That study provided useful data about PCBs in Anniston. We found associations between PCBs and health measures such as blood pressure and diabetes in some groups of people in Anniston, but we would like to study those more. Scientific research also suggests that additional aspects of health may be related to PCBs and other chemical exposures. We would like to study those here in Anniston. To do so, we invite you to take part in the Anniston Follow-up Study. We think that the study will help the Anniston community better understand PCB exposures over time and possible associations with health outcomes.

If you decide to take part in this new study, we will test your blood again for PCBs. We also will test for other chemicals, such as dioxins, pesticides, and heavy metals that were not measured earlier. We also will test your blood for some of the same types of health markers that many doctors use. We will measure your height, weight, waist, and blood pressure, and ask you to complete a questionnaire. This studyvisit will take about two hours. For your convenience, you can choose to participate at either the CCHD or the West Anniston study office. If it is too hard for you to travel to a study office, we can set up a home visit. If you complete all of the parts of the study, we will give you a $150 gift card.

We hope that you have received a study fact sheet from us in the mail. If you have not, we probably do not have your correct current address. If you want to take part in the study, please contact us at one of the phone numbers provided below to update your contact information. One of our staff members will return your call to answer any questions you have about the study. If you are interested in taking part in the study, our caller will set up a time for your appointment.

You may contact us at (855) 822-1778 (toll-free) or at (256) 237-7523. We look forward to including you as an important part of the Anniston Follow-up Study.

Sincerely,

Ms. Lori Bell (Director, CCHD)

Marian Pavuk, MD, PhD (Principal Investigator, ATSDR)

Linda Birnbaum, PhD (Principal Investigator, NIH)

Stephen Mennemeyer, PhD (Principal Investigator, UAB)

**Questions/Contacts:** If you have any questions about the study, please contact:

Ms. Lori Bell

Calhoun County Health Department

3400 McClellan Blvd

Anniston, AL 36201

Phone: (256) 237-7523

Attachment 8.3

Anniston Community Health Survey: Follow-up Study and Dioxin Analyses

**Radio Announcement**

We have an announcement on behalf of the Calhoun County Health Department (CCHD) and its Director, Ms. Lori Bell. CCHD is pleased to announce the Anniston Community Health Survey: Follow-up Study and Dioxin Analyses. CCHD is working with a research team composed of representatives from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). NIH and ATSDR are funding a new polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) study in Anniston.

CCHD is trying to reach the people who were part of the first Anniston PCB Health Study during 2005–2007 and had PCBs in their blood measured. That survey gave useful data about PCBs in Anniston. We found associations between PCBs and health measures such as blood pressure and diabetes in some groups of people in Anniston, but we would like to study those more. Scientific research also suggests that additional aspects of health may be related to PCBs and other chemical exposures. We would like to study those here in Anniston. CCHD invites you to be in the Anniston Follow-up Study to answer these questions. We think that the study will help the Anniston community better understand PCB exposures over time and possible associations with health outcomes.

If you decide to take part in this new study, we will test your blood again for PCBs. We also will test for other chemicals, such as dioxins, pesticides, and heavy metals that were not measured earlier. We will test also for many of the same types of health markers that many doctors use. We will measure your height, weight, waist, and blood pressure, and ask you to complete a questionnaire. This studyvisit will take about two hours. For your convenience, you can choose to participate at either the CCHD or the West Anniston study office. If it is hard for you to travel to a study office, we can set up a home visit. If you complete all of the parts of the study, you will receive a $150 gift card.

If you want to take part in the study, you may contact us at (855) 822-1778 (toll-free) or at (256) 237-7523. One of our staff members will answer any questions you have about the study. If you are interested in taking part in the study, the caller will set up a time for your appointment.

On behalf of CCHD and the whole research team, we look forward to including you as an important part of the Anniston Follow-up Study. Lori Bell (Director, CCHD).

The study principal investigators are: Marian Pavuk, MD, PhD (ATSDR), Linda Birnbaum, PhD (NIH), and Prof. Stephen Mennemeyer (UAB).

If you have any questions about the Anniston Follow-up Study, please contact:

Ms. Lori Bell

Calhoun County Health Department

3400 McClellan Blvd

Anniston, AL 36201

Phone: (256) 237-7523

Attachment 8.4

Anniston Community Health Survey: Follow-up Study and Dioxin Analyses

**Community Meeting Poster**

**Anniston Community Health Survey: Follow-up Study and Dioxin Analyses**

**\*\*Community Meeting\*\***

**Date:** *mm/dd/201\_*

**Place: Carver Center**

720 West 14th Street

Anniston, AL 36201

**Time: 6:00 pm**

**Find out more about the study!**

**Get your questions answered from study investigators!**

**Door Prizes!**

**Snacks!**

*Organized by: Calhoun County Health Department and University of Alabama*

*Sponsored by: The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and the National Institutes of Health*

Attachment 8.5

Anniston Community Health Survey: Follow-up Study and Dioxin Analyses

**Community Meeting Handouts**

**Anniston Community Health Survey: Follow-up Study and Dioxin Analyses**

**\*\*Community Meeting\*\***

**Carver Center**

720 West 14th Street

Anniston, AL 36201

**Date: dd/mm/yyyy**

**6:00 pm**

**Community Meeting Agenda**

**Introductions:** Ms. Shirley Carter

**History and Overview**

(Anniston Community Health Survey/Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) Health Study):

Dr. Christie Shelton (Jacksonville State University)

 Dr. Marian Pavuk (Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry)

**Follow-up Study:** Dr. Linda Birnbaum (National Institutes of Health)

Ms. Lori Bell (Calhoun County Health Department)

Prof. Stephen Mennemeyer (University of Alabama at Birmingham)

**Questions and Answers:** Study Investigators

**Anniston Follow-up Study**

The Calhoun County Health Department (CCHD) is pleased to announce the Anniston Community Health Survey: Follow-up Study and Dioxin Analyses. We are working with a research team from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). NIH and ATSDR are funding a new PCB study in Anniston.

We are trying to reach all of the people who were part of the first Anniston PCB Health Study during 2005–2007 and had the PCBs in their blood measured. We found associations between PCBs and health measures such as blood pressure and diabetes in some groups of people in Anniston, but we would like to study those more. Scientific research also suggests that additional aspects of health may be related to PCBs and other chemical exposures. We would like to study those here in Anniston. To do so, we invite you to take part in the Anniston Follow-up Study. We think that the study will help the Anniston community better understand PCB exposures over time and possible associations with health outcomes.

Your participation and support of the study are important to us and we look forward to working with you again.

Thank you for joining us!