



Dear Texas Health Authority:

As a Texas Health Authority (THA), our responsibilities to our communities are significant, varied, and directly impact community health outcomes. As such, The Galveston County Health District and the Department of State Health Services have partnered to cordially invite you to two exciting events.

The first event is a THA Networking and Planning Forum to be held on Thursday afternoon from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., September 16th, 2010, on Galveston Island at Moody Gardens Hotel. Regional & Local Health Authorities from across the state will have a rare opportunity to network, participate in a brainstorming planning session to identify educational and training needs, and to hear important updates. Dr. David Lakey, Texas Commissioner of Health, will join us and share in the open discussions. You will not want to miss this rare opportunity to gather together, identify needs, and share perspectives. One goal is to use this forum as a spring board to develop future forums that meet the identified needs of THAs.

The second event is a CME conference, expecting up to 300 participants, called "*Riding the Waves: An Island of Strategies for HIV, STDs, and TB*". The Texas Commissioner of Health as well as Dr. Mary desVignes Kendrick, Research Scientist, National Center for Emergency Medical Preparedness and Response, Texas A&M Health Science Center, will be keynote speakers along with many other prominent public health experts. **REGISTER TODAY** for a nominal fee. Additional information and downloadable registration form are found at www.gchd.org/press/2010/Riding-the-Waves-2010.html.

I want to invite you to a day devoted to learning strategies to combat these important public health diseases and networking with an array of public health and medical experts from across the state. Feel free to EMAIL mguidry@gchd.org, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Guidry".

Harlan "Mark" Guidry, MD, MPH
Health Authority for Galveston County & Cities
Galveston County Health District

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Morgan, MD, MPH".

James Morgan, MD, MPH
Assistant Commissioner
Division of Regional and Local
Health Services