Columbia, SC – The Richland Tuberculosis Association along with Representative Anton Gunn and Senator Joel Lourie will hold a press conference on Wednesday, March 24, 2010, at 2:00 p.m. on the first floor Lobby of the Statehouse to discuss the growth of tuberculosis (TB) in South Carolina. South Carolina has the tenth highest rate of (TB) in the United States, a disease that worldwide kills 1.6 million people every year. Within South Carolina, the Pee Dee area has one of the highest rates of TB cases.

Why is TB still an issue in South Carolina? It can be explained in part by a lack of awareness and education available to the populations at greatest risk. While medical advances have made it possible to prevent, treat, and eliminate tuberculosis, TB continues to take a heavy toll on African-Americans in South Carolina representing more than half of the active cases of tuberculosis in the state.

The Richland County Tuberculosis Association invites you to attend the press conference on March 24, 2010. Please call Libby Robertson at 803-252-1087 if you have any questions.

The RTBA is a non-profit organization located in Columbia, South Carolina and has been providing programs and services for residents in South Carolina since 1917. One of our goals is to assist in the eradication of this dreaded disease and encourage state health officials to participate in national, regional and local tuberculosis programs that support the goal of eradicating the disease.

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