



TBWIRE

THE U.S. PARTNER IN THE GLOBAL
STOP TB PARTNERSHIP

SEPTEMBER 2023

GREETINGS!

Please note we have begun to utilize Moosend software to distribute Stop TB USA communications, including the monthly TB Wire. Bear with us while we continue to work out our new system; and be sure to add leadership@stoptbusa.org to your trusted contacts list!

Make sure to [register for a free, virtual event](#) hosted by the Stop TB USA Media Work Group on October 17th, 7pm ET! Presentations and discussion will follow a screening of *Where the Sun Rarely Goes*, a 12-minute documentary that captures the devastation of tuberculosis (TB) in the Russian prison system and the dedication of *Medicins Sans Frontiers* (MSF) in their effort to support TB treatment and prevention. More details below in our 'Events' section!

Finally, this month will see the second *ever* High-Level Meeting on TB at the UN (Sept. 22) – we are talking high-ranking officials from lots of countries all talking about TB! You can read more about the event [here](#) and listen to an ATS symposium about it [here](#). But we need to do our part to assure a strong public commitment is promised by the Biden Administration. To that end, i.e., **#EndTB**, see the first action item below!

DC UPDATE

Senate TB letter deadline is September 7th! Urgent: Ask your senators to sign the Senate UNHLM tuberculosis letter today. The letter could make a big difference in how the U.S. leads on tuberculosis for the future. When contacting Senate offices, please send them a [copy of the letter](#) and the reasons why you want them to sign. If you need assistance figuring out what you wish to say, use messaging from our [online alert](#). Polite persistence will be key to receiving your response and rationale. You can also keep the pressure on senators to sign by submitting a [letter to the editor](#) and asking your Action Networks [to send a message to their senators](#) as well. – [results.org](#)

Keep asking your Members of Congress to co-sponsor the End TB Now Act, H.1776/S.288!! First the **good news**: the End TB Now Act has passed through both the House and the Senate Committees! Here's a helpful [fact sheet](#) and a [press release](#) about the End TB Now Act.

Please continue to ask your Representatives and Senators to co-sponsor this important bi-partisan bill! Special thanks to Senator Bob Menendez (D-NJ), Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.), Rep. Ami Bera (D-CA) and Rep. María Elvira Salazar (R-FL), Rep. Brad Sherman (D-CA), and Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) for being the lead sponsors! Call or write your members of Congress to ask they co-sponsor the End TB Now Act today.

Call the Capitol Switchboard at **1-202-224-3121** and ask for your senator/representative or give your state if you do not know their name. When you are connected to an office, ask for the Health Legislative Assistant. If you leave a voicemail message, include your name, phone number, and email so that they can respond.

Sample message: I am a constituent from [your town] and I am calling to urge Sen./Rep. _____ to co-sponsor the End Tuberculosis Now Act of 2023. Additionally, the End TB Now Act has passed through the committees, and I am looking to your leadership to bring it to the floor. Would you please ask [Senator Schumer (if your Senator is Democrat)/Senator McConnell (if your Senator is Republican) or if a Representative - Representative Jeffries (if a Democrat)/McCarthy (if a Republican)] to bring this bill to the [House/Senate] floor?

The bill outlines a plan and critical actions to align tuberculosis efforts in the U.S. with international efforts. TB, an airborne infectious disease, is once again the leading global infectious disease killer. TB cases and deaths are rising across the globe. *[Add a sentence about why you care about TB elimination.]* The End TB Now Act will amplify our ability to end TB as a public health threat. I urge Sen./Rep. _____ to cosponsor this very important bill. Thank you for your consideration!

Bonus points for sending this via email as well, which also increases your chance of getting a response!

Stay tuned for the introduction of the domestic companion bill, The Comprehensive TB Elimination Act. We'll need to get lots of cosponsors for that one too...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Survey to Improve Newcomer Health Guidance and Provider Trainings for U.S. health care providers and public health professionals](#): The Minnesota Center of Excellence in Newcomer Health is seeking input from health care providers and public health professionals who care for and support refugee and other newcomer populations nationwide. To ensure quality and equitable care across the country, we need to know the kind of support and education that would be helpful to your practice. Your thoughts and experience are very important to us. You should also know that we might share a summary of findings in a report or publication.

HIGHLIGHTED TB REPORTS/UPDATES

- [Outbreak of Multidrug-Resistant Tuberculosis — Kansas, 2021–2022](#)
- [Open letter to Johnson & Johnson requesting clarification on the recent deal on generic bedaquiline supply](#)
- [Clinical standards for the management of adverse effects during treatment for TB](#)
- [Clinical standards for drug-susceptible TB in children and adolescents](#)
- [TB screening of Ukrainian refugees in Germany](#)

Read more reports and updates on our website page [‘From TB Wire’!](#)

TB IN THE NEWS

- [I saw firsthand in Nigeria that drugs alone can't win the war against tuberculosis](#)
- [500 patients may have been exposed to tuberculosis, Indiana hospital warns](#)
- [Second deadly TB outbreak linked to tainted bone grafts](#)
- [TB on the rise for first time in decades after COVID-19 interrupted public health interventions and increased inequality](#)
- [County Health Responds to Active Tuberculosis Case \[ARIZONA\]](#)
- [Tuberculosis outbreaks in Minnesota, elsewhere are a call to action](#)
- [Mycobacterium tuberculosis as teacher](#)
- [The Hill: Support TB interventions now to protect against future threats](#)
- [Meeting of two pandemics in prison: a challenging event in a challenging environment](#)
- [Community perspective on child-friendly medications for drug-resistant TB: importance, priorities and advocacy](#)

Read lots more TB news on our website page [‘From TB Wire’!](#)

TB RESOURCES

- [Digital Resources For Tuberculosis](#)
- [Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis: A Survival Guide for Clinicians, Third Edition/ 2022 Updates](#)
- [Продовжуйте приймати ліки проти ТБ \[Keep Taking Your TB Medicine\]](#)
- [What You Need to Know About the TB Skin Test \[English and Spanish\]](#)
- [Slide Set—Introduction to Tuberculosis](#)
- [Child and Adolescent TB - Resources to Train Healthcare Workers](#)
- [WHO Model Lists of Essential Medicines](#)

- [Drug Resistant Tuberculosis Medical Educational Program](#)
- [Programmatic and Clinical Management of DR-TB Course](#)

EVENTS, MEETINGS, & CONFERENCES

[September 7, 2023 3-4:30pm ET Bridges to Build: TB in the Asian & Asian American Community](#)

[October 17th, 2023, 7pm ET: Where the Sun Rarely Goes](#)

Our very own Media Work Group will be presenting *Where the Sun Rarely Goes*, a 12-minute documentary that captures the devastation of tuberculosis (TB) in the Russian prison system and the dedication of *Medicins Sans Frontiers* (MSF) in their effort to support TB treatment and prevention.

Filmed in 2000, MSF first started working in 1995 in Colony No. 33 in the Kemerovo region. When MSF first arrived, the TB mortality rate was 2-3 people per day. At the time of filming, the mortality rate was 2-3 people per month.

In this film, MSF highlights the need for nutrition to support TB medication, directly observed short-course therapy, and improved diagnostic tests and procedures to find cases early. The documentary contains footage from inside Russian prisons, as well as diagnostic testing procedures and interviews with people impacted by the carceral system receiving TB treatment.

Please join us for a free, virtual screening of *Where the Sun Rarely Goes* with presentations and panel discussion to follow. Among other experts, an MSF press officer who worked on the film will be available to answer program-specific questions. [Register here.](#)

[ATS 2023 Scientific Symposium available free online - The UN High Level Meeting on TB 2023: A chance to beat this particular pandemic](#)

Chairs: David Lewinsohn and Jess Potter. Talks:

1. Living with TB, Samara Barnes & Kelly Holland
2. Beyond cure – Living with the long-term effects, Jess Potter
3. UN High-Level Meeting on TB, Matt Oliver
4. Policy into practice to make a difference, Kate O'Brien

The [Advisory Council for the Elimination of Tuberculosis \(ACET\)](#) held their bi-annual meeting on June 20-21, 2023. A variety of topics were discussed, including recommendations for policies, strategies, objectives, and priorities to eliminate TB.

[Recording: The ABC for a TB Activist: 1/4/6x24 Campaign and Supportive Diagnostics:](#)

[APHA Annual Meeting and Expo Registration:](#) APHA 2023 is the premier public health event of the year. Learn from leading experts, build leadership skills and knowledge and connect with peers from around the globe, all with the choice and flexibility to select the best format for you.

Stop TB USA: Where we unite to #EndTB!

Invite a friend to [sign up](#) to receive the TB Wire and [be a part](#) of Stop TB USA!

Consider donating: Make a check out to NTCA (our fiscal home) with "Stop TB USA donation" in the memo line.

Send to PO Box 260288, Atlanta, GA 31126

Stop TB USA

stoptbusa.org

leadership@stoptbusa.org

PO Box 260288, Atlanta, GA 31126, USA

