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John O. Agwunobi, M.D., M.P.H.  
Secretary

**PINELLAS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

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**Wednesday, October 13, 2004**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Community Input Needed for Health Grant**

Pinellas County residents and visitors who are concerned with the chronic diseases of overweight/obesity, diabetes and asthma are encouraged to attend the Nov. 3rd meeting of the STEPS to a HealthierPinellas Consortium from 6-9 p.m. at the Johnnie Ruth Clarke Center at 1344 22<sup>nd</sup> Street South in St. Petersburg.

STEPS to a HealthierPinellas is a multi-million dollar grant designed to lower the occurrence and the associated health care costs relating to obesity, diabetes and asthma by targeting the three contributing behaviors of poor nutrition, lack of physical activity and tobacco usage. The initial awarding of the five-year grant was September 2003. As the Pinellas County Health Department and its partnering health organizations enter their second grant year, STEPS officials are seeking increased public involvement.

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*The mission of the Pinellas County Health Department is to promote, protect and improve the health and safety of residents and visitors through public and private community efforts.*