



Jeb Bush
Governor

M. Rony François, M.D., M.S.P.H., Ph.D.
Secretary, Department of Health

PINELLAS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Monday, January 23, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

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Florida Secretary of Health, Other Dignitaries to Attend **Step Up, Florida Comes to Pinellas County**

You're invited to get active with others in a safe and fun event that celebrates the great opportunities we have to be physically active here in Pinellas County. **Step Up, Pinellas** and help us celebrate. Pinellas will move the Step Up, Florida flag from the southern end of the Pinellas Trail to the Pasco County line.

Step Up, Pinellas County! Thursday, February 2, 2006

Kickoff at 8:45 a.m. - Pinellas Trail (Outside Dillard's at Tyrone Mall)

- Dignitaries at kick-off to include **St. Petersburg City Councilman Rick Kriseman** and others;
- The walk will proceed along the Pinellas Trail, stopping in Seminole – Dignitaries there to include **Seminole Mayor Dottie Reeder**;
- Walk continues through Largo – With remarks by **Largo Mayor Bob Jackson**.
- **Closing ceremonies at 2:30 p.m.** - Coachman Park, Clearwater
 - Dignitaries expected to attend closing ceremonies: **Florida Secretary of Health M. Rony François, M.D., M.S.P.H., Ph.D.**; Pinellas County Commissioners Karen Seel and Calvin Harris; Clearwater Mayor Frank Hibbard; Pasco County Health Department Director Dr. Marc Yacht, Pinellas County Health Department Director John P. Heilman, M.D., M.P.H. and Assistant Director Claude M. Dharamraj, M.D., M.P.H.

Step Up, Florida - On Our Way To Healthy Living! is a statewide campaign promoting physical activity and healthy lifestyles all year long to Florida's citizens and visitors. During February every county will host a Step Up, Florida! event. That means that wherever you live, you have an opportunity to get involved and get active with people in your community. The Step Up, Florida celebration is a point-to-point event where a flag is passed through all 67 counties in Florida, ending at a designated location in Duval County on February 28.

For more information about Pinellas County's Step Up, Florida event, visit www.PinellasWellness.com

For information about the statewide initiative, please visit the DOH website at:

http://www.doh.state.fl.us/family/chronicdisease/walk_index.html.

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