



**COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE  
COMMUNITY HEALTH AGENCY  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

**INVITATION TO MEDIA**

**Date:** October 24, 2007  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

***Breaking the Silence of Substance Abuse***

Over the past two decades, the use of **alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs** during pregnancy has become a major public health concern. In Riverside County, the Perinatal Screening, Assessment, Referral and Treatment (SART) Program works closely with physicians who provide prenatal care on integrating substance abuse screening, assessment and referral as a routine part of prenatal care.

The *Breaking the Silence of Substance Abuse* event will **celebrate the women who have been empowered to share about their secret substance use during pregnancy**. Come meet the brave women who broke the silence to overcome their addictions, along with the providers who helped them through their journey.

The event will be held on **Tuesday, November 6, 2007** at California Baptist University located at 8432 Magnolia Avenue – Copenbarger Room in Riverside from 10:30am to 2:30pm. The event will include nationally renowned speakers - Dr. Ira Chasnoff and Dr. Richard McGourty along with the recognition of all Perinatal SART providers and supporters.

- Dr. Ira Chasnoff, President of the Children's Research Triangle and one of the nation's leading experts and researchers in the field of maternal drug use during pregnancy and the effects on the newborn infant and child.
- Dr. Richard McGourty, Ph.D., who has worked as an organizational psychologist since 1982. His work embraces a range of activities, from organizational change efforts to strategic planning and management development.

We want to invite all media to cover this exciting event. Please RSVP to the Riverside County Maternal Child & Adolescent Health Program at (951) 358-5250 by Friday, November 2, 2007. There is no cost to attend this event.

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