

WTC REGISTRY LETTERHEAD

Date, 2003

Name

Address

City, State, Zip Code

Dear (First Name) (Last Name);

The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYCDOHMH) needs your help with a health study. This study is called the World Trade Center (WTC) Registry. We developed the WTC Registry with the Federal Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry (ATSDR). The information we collect will help to answer many questions about the long-term health and mental-health effects of the WTC disaster.

A registry is a listing of persons with things in common. The WTC Registry will look at health issues. You are one of 98,000 people we hope will enter the Registry. People who lived near the WTC site will join. People who worked, or went to school near the WTC site will join. And, people who participated in the rescue and recovery effort will join. All of these groups were exposed to smoke, dust and debris after the WTC disaster.

The WTC Registry is an important public health project. You received this letter because you or your child is eligible for the Registry. We would like to offer you the opportunity to enroll. There are two ways to enroll. **You may call our toll-free number, 1-866-NYC-WTCR (1-866-692-9827) immediately, or you may wait until one of our interviewers calls you.**

RTI International, a non-profit research firm located in North Carolina, is helping NYCDOHMH and ATSDR in creating the registry. An interviewer from RTI will explain the purpose of the Registry and will answer any questions that you have. The interviewer will then conduct the health interview over the telephone, if you choose to join the Registry.

We hope that you will participate. The information that you will provide is vital to the greater New York community and to the nation. The information you provide will be kept private. It will only be used for research and analysis. It will not be used for any other purpose. We will report the results in summary form, only. We will never refer to individuals in any way that might identify name. The WTC Registry has a Federal Certificate of Confidentiality. This protects all of the data from court orders or requests under the Freedom of Information Act. No one outside the project will find out that you participated.

We have included a letter of support from the Health Commissioner of New York City. We have also included a brochure with more information about the Registry. For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.nyc.gov/health/wtcregistry>. If you have any questions about the World Trade Center Registry, please contact Lisa Thalji, the World Trade Center Registry Project Director at RTI International; toll free at 1-800-334-8571, extension 5245. If you have any