



# TBWIRE

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

**JUNE 2024**

## **GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR!**

With the start of June, we have more than just the start of summer to celebrate! We recently welcomed three new Coordinating Board members, Erin Corriveau, Sophie Huddart, and Krystle Mallory!! We also launched our new Detailing Work Group, led by Erin and active member Sam Malley. This new Work Group is still shaping its goals, but the instigating need was to train more primary care providers on the need to [Think, Test, and Treat TB](#). The increase in TB around the US—and in complexity of those cases—means we need more eyes and hands than ever to help us **#EndTB**. If you want to join the action, just send us an email at [leadership@stoptbusa.org](mailto:leadership@stoptbusa.org).

- Cynthia A. Tschampl, PhD

## **DC UPDATE**

Continue to ask your Members of Representatives and Senators to co-sponsor the [End TB Now Act, H.1776/S.288](#)!! Here's a helpful [fact sheet](#) and a [press release](#) about the End TB Now Act.

Additional actions you can ask your members of Congress to take:

1. Please write or speak to the Chair and Ranking member of Appropriations in favor of a minimum of \$225 million for CDC's fiscal year 2025 TB programs as TB cases increased 16% in 2023 and will continue to rise as the full impact of COVID-19 comes to bear.
2. Please write a letter to CMS Administrator Brooks-LaSure in support of a National Coverage Determination of LTBI screening and testing.

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. If you would like a sample script, email us at [leadership@stoptbusa.org](mailto:leadership@stoptbusa.org).

[Bonus points if you write us at [leadership@stoptbusa.org](mailto:leadership@stoptbusa.org) and tell us how your call went!!]

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

On May 15, 2024, CDC launched a [new website](#) as part of an [agency-wide effort](#) to modernize and transform digital communication at CDC.

As part of this initiative, the Division of Tuberculosis Elimination has several new updated websites included in this initial launch of the new CDC.gov: [Tuberculosis](#), [TB Prevention in Health Care Settings](#), and [Information for TB Programs](#)

There are three options to see previous content from the old CDC.gov. Visit [archive.cdc.gov](https://archive.cdc.gov) for a searchable site of key documents (available indefinitely) or visit [snapshot.cdc.gov](https://snapshot.cdc.gov) to see CDC.gov exactly as it was before the new site launched (available for 6 months). Many PDFs, power point slide sets, and other files have been archived on [CDC Stacks](#).

***Additional Announcements:***



- [Stop TB Partnership's Brenda Waning Named to the TIME100 Health List](#)
- [NTCA and NSTC Release the Third Edition of Testing and Treatment of Latent Tuberculosis Infection in the United States](#)
- [Announcing the Policy Innovation Exchange - A New Policy & Legal Technical Assistance Resource](#)
- [After 30 years of decline, tuberculosis is rising in the U.S. again. How did we get here?](#)

## **EVENTS, CONFERENCES, & COURSES**

- [June 5, 2024 | #EndTB Webinar: WHO Guidance on conducting reviews of tuberculosis programmes](#)
- [September 17-19, 2024 | Atlanta, GA | CDC's Tuberculosis \(TB\) Education and Training Network \(ETN\) and TB Program Evaluation Network \(PEN\) Conference](#)

## **TB REPORTS & RESOURCES**

- [WHO launches updated guidance on HIV-associated TB](#)
- [Consolidated guidance on tuberculosis data generation and use](#)
- [Guidance on social protection for people affected by tuberculosis](#)
- [CDC Releases Interim Guidance on a Four-Month TB Treatment Regimen](#)
- [Digital adaptation kit for tuberculosis: operational requirements for implementing WHO recommendations in digital systems](#)
- [Evidence and research gaps identified during development of policy guidelines for tuberculosis](#)
- [Substantial Increase in Tuberculosis in California: Recommendations for California Healthcare Providers](#)

## **TB IN THE NEWS**

### ***TB Articles:***

- [We Know How to Eradicate TB. We Just Need the Will.](#)
- [Age, sex may be important to consider in assessing tuberculosis risk](#)
- [The Path to Pandemic Preparedness Is Hidden in Plain Sight](#)
- [100-Year-Old TB Vaccine Protects Type 1 Diabetics from COVID-19, Other Infectious Diseases](#)
- [How portable, AI X-ray machines are helping Uganda beat TB](#)
- [New partnership to improve access to new antibiotics in low- and middle-income countries to boost efforts to combat TB and AMR](#)

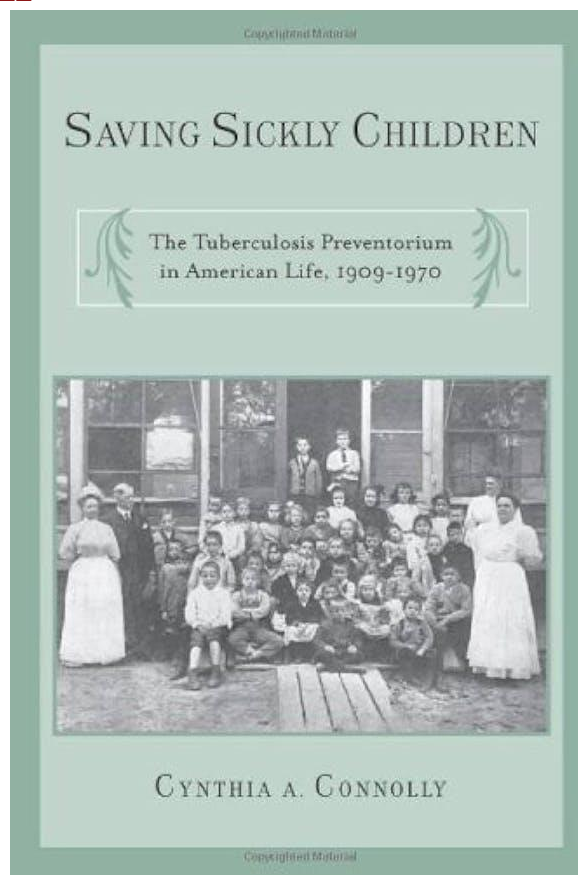
### ***TB Incidence Reports:***

- [California city declares a public health emergency after tuberculosis sickens 14](#)
- [Two cases of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis detected on Guam](#)
- [‘It’s pretty contagious.’ Tuberculosis case confirmed at Chester High School, DHEC says](#)
- [Tuberculosis case reported at high school in North Carolina](#)

### **JOURNAL ARTICLES**

- [Enhancing tuberculosis vaccine development: a deconvolution neural network approach for multi-epitope prediction](#)
- [A Case of Isolated Splenic Tuberculosis Presenting as a Splenic Abscess Complicated by Rupture Leading to Splenectomy in an Immunocompetent Male](#)
- [Immune responses induced by Mycobacterium tuberculosis heat-resistant antigen \(Mtb-HAg\) upon co-administration with Bacillus Calmette-Guérin in mice](#)
- [Study of the results of tuberculosis interferon-gamma release assays before and after the SARS CoV-2 pandemic](#)

### **TB BOOKSHELF**



***Saving Sickly Children: The Tuberculosis Preventorium in American Life by Cynthia A. Connolly***

Rutgers University Press

ISBN: 0813569672

Reading any history of tuberculosis pre-streptomycin, one's assured to discover a disconnect between causation and correlation, classism, racism, and plenty of good intentions—often with unfortunate results. Sometimes the history may seem like speculative fiction, engendering a response of the *really?* in the reader. Such is the case with Cynthia Connolly's *Saving Sickly Children: The*

*Tuberculosis Preventorium in American Life.* In fact, upon first learning of the existence of preventoria, Connolly kept researching because the concept—institutions for healthy children judged to be at-risk for TB but not showing signs of active infection—“*sounded completely alien* to the ideas that underpin contemporary children’s health care.”

Conolloy presents the *where* of the preventoria—Sea Breeze (the setting of *Black Angels*), Farmingdale, New Jersey; San Diego, California; Charlottesville, Virginia; etc....and the *what* of the programs—fresh air (with outdoor sleeping), exercise, and plenty of healthy food— but more importantly, the *why* beyond the stated goals of avoiding TB and gaining weight which was the primary metric for evaluating success: Children were to be instilled with hygiene, diet, *and cultural* habits to take home and pass on to their parents. And as for the *how*, much came down to parental agency (or a lack thereof) political will in local, state, and national legislatures, and the influence that comes with money, be it from the government or private sources. And the combination of those force can have significant impact Connolly highlights in her discussion of the widespread adoption of pasteurized milk.

*Saving Sickly Children* could have been several books or perhaps episodes in a TV documentary series, each defined by a specific place and time, and one of Connolly’s quiet accomplishments is how she moves from subject to subject before showing frustration at her obvious wrestling with the scope of the project.

In fact, the most valuable chapters are the first and the last in which Connolly tackles another set of *hows*, not just *how* successful the preventoria were but *how* to even define and evaluate success from a perspective that’s neither entirely rooted in the past nor simply a product of contemporary science and changing social attitudes. After all, Connolly writes how *Saving Sickly Children* came about when Newt Gingrich was discussing putting children (read: poor and black) in public orphanages for reasons other than them having no homes. And now? There is a loosening of laws that mandate life-saving vaccinations as well as those that offer protection from child marriage and labor. In their place is a slate of homophobic statutes passed under the blanket of “parental rights,” but there is also progress on TB vaccine development, shorter treatment regimens, and more accurate and widespread screening procedures for children and adults. It will be up to us to help make sure these advances are continued and eligible for all.

- David Moskowitz, Stop TB USA Media Work Group Chair

**Stop TB USA**

[stoptbusa.org](http://stoptbusa.org)

[leadership@stoptbusa.org](mailto:leadership@stoptbusa.org)

PO Box 260288, Atlanta, GA 31126



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