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CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN RECRUITMENT IS AN ONGOING PRACTICE AT CEDARS-SINAI MEDICAL CENTER

LOS ANGELES, CA (September 17, 2004) – Cedars-Sinai Medical Center is dedicated to having a diverse medical staff and training programs to meet the ethnic and cultural needs of the diverse population that the Medical Center serves. The Cultural Diversity Committee of the medical staff is chartered to: provide culturally diverse lectures and assist the medical staff in attaining cultural competence, encourage more culturally diverse medical students to select Cedars-Sinai as their site for clerkships and residency training and to provide special mentoring of the culturally diverse physician in training.

On Thursday, September 23, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Cedars-Sinai will host it's 4th annual Cultural Diversity Reception for approximately 60 medical school students from UCLA, USC, Loma Linda University, UC Irvine, and Charles R. Drew University of Medicine & Science. Attendees will meet with current residents and faculty to learn more about academic programs and training opportunities available at the Medical Center.

“At Cedars-Sinai, we work diligently to ensure that the people who work and train here represent the various ethnic backgrounds reflected in the large diverse community we serve,” said Sheila Kar, MD, chair of Cedars-Sinai's Cultural Diversity Committee. “We strongly encourage diverse medical students to attend the reception to learn more about our exceptional clinical graduate education programs and hear first hand from several of our diverse medical staff about our commitment to cultural diversity.”

Medical students who attend the informal reception will have an opportunity to hear a brief presentation from members of our respected medical staff. In addition, several students will meet with current residents, take a tour of the Medical Center, and interact with key members of Cedars-Sinai's leadership, including members of the board of directors and other senior executives.

"Given our commitment to quality patient care, Cedars-Sinai pursues diversity in all areas of the medical center," reports Shlomo Melmed, M.D., senior vice president of Academic Affairs. "In fact, we pride ourselves in attracting and recruiting some of the most outstanding and committed young men and women in medicine today, which really helps to provide a healing environment for our patients."

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