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For immediate release

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March to the Mailbox events scheduled to promote return of census forms

A half dozen March to the Mailbox events are scheduled in the Tucson area within the next two weeks to remind people in hard-to-count areas to mail back their 2010 Census forms.

Dates and locations where March to the Mailbox events will be held are as follows:

- **March 27** – Census information table will be at the Friends and Family Sports March Madness 2010 basketball tournament from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Altar Valley Middle School.
- **March 29, 30 and 31** – Questionnaire info forums and neighborhood canvassing, west side of Interstate 10 in the St. Mary's and Grande road area, sponsored by Democracia USA.
- **April 1** – 6-8 p.m., Sam Lena-South Tucson Branch Library, 1607 S. 6th Ave., South Tucson. Live music with Gertie and T.O. Boyz. Giveaways, including free food and free T-shirts (I am South Tucson – Yo soy Sur Tucson) for those who attend. Invited dignitaries include: U.S. Congressman Raúl Grijalva, Pima County Supervisor Ramón Valadez, Chairman District 2, Heidi Aranda, Principal of Ochoa Elementary, Councilman John Felix, City of South Tucson.
- **April 10** – 9 a.m. to 12 (noon), PPEP TEC High School: 1840 E. Benson Highway - hosted by Adelante! America LULAC Youth Mentorship. DJ, refreshments, invited speakers.
- **April 10** – 10 a.m. to 12 (noon), Ellie Towne Flowing Wells Community Center, 1660 W. Ruthrauff, Tucson. Activities for the whole family: jumping castle, games and refreshments. Information available on summer safety, swim lessons, health services, booster seats, drug and alcohol prevention, 2010 Census and more.
- **Week of March 29** – Census information tables will be set up at various apartment complexes where refugees reside over several days next week, sponsored by Tucson International Alliance of Refugee Communities.

For each person counted, the Pima County region receives \$1,000 annually in federal funding to support important community services. In addition, Pima County receives \$1,500 in state-shared revenues based on the population count to be determined as part of the 2010 census.

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“When people are not counted, our region loses the opportunity to receive an additional \$2,500 per person per year,” said Laura Cummings, a U.S. Census Bureau partnership specialist. “Given our tight economic times, it’s even more important that we receive our fair share of funding for our area and state. The only way to ensure that is by everyone completing and mailing back the 2010 Census forms they should have received by now.”

Target stores in Tucson have donated bottled water for the events.

If people have not received a form, they may contact a local Questionnaire Assistance Center for more information.

The QACs are located at libraries, churches, neighborhood and cultural centers and chambers among other locations.

The centers will be open through April 19. Hours of each location will vary. The phone number for the QACs is (520) 918-1813. For more information about the 2010 Census, please visit www.2010census.gov.

Pima Association of Governments is an association of local, state and tribal governments with a mission to build consensus among its members and the public on regional planning for transportation, air quality and water quality. Please visit www.PAGnet.org for more information.