

“Colon Cancer-Free Zone” Fact Sheet

- Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths. It kills 56,000 Americans a year, making it second only to lung cancer.
- Colon Cancer is 90% preventable.
- On August 19, 2003 the city council of Monte Sereno voted to become the world's first “Colon Cancer-Free Zone” to raise awareness of this easily preventable and curable disease and to emphasize the importance of stamping out one of the most common forms of cancer.
- Just over one third of Americans older than 50 have had any colon cancer screening. Disadvantaged populations have even lower screening rates.
- Men and women age 50 or older are encouraged to contact the American Cancer Society at 1.800.ACS.2345 or www.cancer.org to learn more about colorectal cancer and the benefits of early detection testing, discussing and deciding with their physician which testing option is best suited for them.
- The American Cancer Society, which has distinguished itself in grassroots campaigns to change habits of smoking and mammography, for instance, is the appropriate agency to help change screening behavior.
- If you are interested in joining the “Colon Cancer Free Zone” to prevent this disease call: 408.688.0126.

**THIS IS A SERIOUS SUBJECT. BRINGING AWARENESS
AND MOVING A COMMUNITY TO ACTION IN COLON
CANCER SCREENING IS, IN EFFECT, A GIFT OF LIFE.**