



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

January 12, 2010

Dear Members of the Stamford Complete Count Committee:

As Census 2010 approaches, I am writing to thank you for all the work your committee has done to date and reiterate the importance of these last few months as we prepare for Census 2010.

In addition to the oft-cited impact on Congressional representation, the Census determines the boundaries of Connecticut's General Assembly districts, affects plans for economic development and determines federal funding for many important programs in the state. It is this federal funding component which is most critical during these financially challenging times. Quickly put into perspective, with Stamford's population of over 110,000, just a 1% error in its population count amounts to risking over \$1 million dollars in funding for state and local programs each year, for the next decade. Since Census will impact the entire state for the next ten years until 2020, we must do all we can to maximize this once in a decade opportunity.

At the state level, we have formed a Complete Count Committee with diverse representation from government, colleges and historically underrepresented populations for the purpose of performing statewide outreach, but those efforts pale in comparison to the effect that local outreach efforts have on the success of the Census. As the US Census Bureau's saying goes, "it's in our hands" – the hands of individuals and local organizations. Local communities know best who their most at-risk populations are and what messages resonate with these groups.

Thanks again for your enthusiasm, leadership and tireless efforts in ensuring the success of Census 2010 in Connecticut.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "M. Jodi Rell".

M. Jodi Rell
Governor