

Media Advisory

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

WHAT The second annual National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day represents a nationwide community mobilization effort to emphasize the HIV/AIDS “state of emergency” among African Americans and to encourage individuals to get tested for HIV. Free, oral HIV testing will be offered at various locations throughout the community.

WHEN February 7, 2002

WHY The number of AIDS cases is rising disproportionately in African American communities. In response a number of churches serving this community are taking a lead role in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Locally, the Clark County Health District HIV Surveillance Project reports that 23 percent of the AIDS cases and 26 percent of HIV infections are among African Americans. On the national level AIDS is the leading cause of death in African American men and women ages 25-44. Currently, African Americans account for 37 percent of the total AIDS cases and 41 percent of new cases of AIDS. Among men, African Americans represent 33 percent of total reported AIDS cases and African American women represent 57 percent.

WHO The Clark County Outreach Team and health district HIV program staff will be conducting free, oral HIV tests.

WHERE The free, oral tests will be available on February 7, 2002 at various locations including:

Victory Missionary Baptist Church Annex Building
1312 F Street, Suite 102
5 p.m. – 9 p.m.

UMC Quick Care
1760 Wheeler Peak
5 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Ravenholt Public Health Center
625 Shadow Lane
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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