

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HIV testing offered in Laughlin, Nev.

(Las Vegas, Nev., - February 13, 2002) – The Clark County Health District HIV Program is partnering with the UMC Quick Care located in Laughlin, Nev., to offer free, oral HIV testing. The oral tests will be available on February 25, March 11 and March 25, 2002 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The Laughlin UMC Quick Care is located at 150 Bruce Woodbury Drive (behind the Horizon Outlet Center off Casino Drive).

The Orasure device, used for testing for the presence of HIV antibodies, collects oral fluid from the cheek and gums in only a few minutes without using needles. The new testing site provides an opportunity for health district staff to inform and educate clients regarding HIV and AIDS. Approximately 20,000 people a year are tested at health district sites in the greater Las Vegas area.

“Testing at this site will allow us to provide clients in this area of our community with information regarding prevention and transmission. When someone takes the initiative to test for HIV and find out their status, it is the first step towards taking control of one’s life,” said Rick Reich, AIDS services coordinator.

In the 20 years since AIDS was identified, an estimated 52 million people have been infected, and in the year 2000 alone, three million people died. Presently, 36 million people are living with HIV/AIDS worldwide. Of these people 34.7 million are adults, 18.3 million are men, 16.4 million are women and 1.3 million are under the age of 15.

All testing is free and confidential. For more information call the Health District HIV Program at (702) 942-9318 or (702) 942-9283.

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