



Clark County Health District • Public Information Office • 625 Shadow Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89106 • 385-1291

Media Advisory

Contact: Cherie Filler-Maietta
(702) 759-0726
David Tonelli
(702) 383-6320

June 1, 2004

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Health District to Offer Free Oral HIV Testing for National HIV Testing Day

WHAT: The Clark County Health District Office of AIDS, in collaboration with several community organizations, will offer free oral HIV testing for National HIV Testing Day. The campaign is part of an ongoing effort to slow the spread of the virus, and educate the public about HIV testing, counseling and treatment.

WHY: HIV testing is the only way to determine a person's HIV status. Additionally, testing can help slow the spread of HIV by alerting people who are unknowingly infected. (People can transmit the virus, even if they are not exhibiting HIV symptoms). The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimate that over 900,000 people in the United States are living with HIV or AIDS. Many of these people do not know they have been infected.

WHEN: Saturday, June 26, 2004

WHERE: Rafael Rivera Community Center (12 p.m. – 4 p.m.)
2900 Stewart Ave.
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Gipsy Nightclub, in the parking lot (10:00 p.m., June 26 – 4:00 a.m., June 27)
4605 Paradise Road
Las Vegas, NV 89109

MORE: Testing at the Rafael Rivera Community Center is in collaboration with the center and Latinos United Celebrating Health (LUCES). Special attention will be devoted to the Latino population, a group disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS.

Testing at Gipsy Nightclub is in collaboration with the Clark County Outreach Team (CCOT). The outreach team provides HIV testing in non-traditional settings. Additionally, the team makes follow-up referrals (when appropriate), educates clientele and distributes safer-sex items.

For more information, contact Cherie Filler-Maietta at the Office of AIDS, (702) 759-0726.

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