

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 25, 2010

National HIV Testing Day, June 27 Health District encourages everyone to get tested

LAS VEGAS – The Southern Nevada Health District is partnering with several community organizations to encourage Clark County residents to get tested for HIV on Sunday, June 27 and Monday, June 28 in recognition of National HIV Testing Day. Testing is always available at the Southern Nevada Health District's Shadow Lane location and no appointment is necessary. For additional information and testing information, contact the health district's office of HIV/AIDS, (702) 759-0702 or visit www.SNHD.info.

The health district and its partners will offer testing at the following locations:

Sunday, June 27

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Canyon Ridge Church

Free HIV testing

6200 W. Lone Mountain Rd., Las Vegas

(702) 658-2722

Monday, June 28

8 a.m. – Noon Southern Nevada Health District

Free rapid HIV testing

625 Shadow Lane, Annex A, Las Vegas, 89106

(702) 759-0702

1 p.m. – 5 p.m. Richard Steele Boxing Facility

Free HIV testing

2475 W. Cheyenne Ave., #110, North Las Vegas, 89032

(702) 638-1308

1:30 p.m. – 6 p.m. Gay and Lesbian Center of Southern Nevada

Free rapid HIV testing/STD screenings/hepatitis A, B vaccines 953 E. Sahara Ave., Ste. B-25/Commercial Center, Las Vegas, 89104

(702) 733-9800

The health district encourages everyone in the community to learn their HIV status. Currently, there are more than 3,500 people living with HIV in Southern Nevada and more than 2,700 living with AIDS.

National HIV Testing Day - add one

In 2006, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended that voluntary HIV testing become routine for patients aged 13 to 64 to increase early diagnosis for the more than 250,000 Americans who are unaware they are HIV positive. According to the CDC, every $9\frac{1}{2}$ minutes someone in the United States is infected with HIV.

Early diagnosis is critical for people who are HIV positive so they can benefit from treatment. It is estimated that nearly 40 percent of people with HIV are not diagnosed until they have developed AIDS, which can occur 10 years after infection.

Additional recommendations from the CDC include annual testing for individuals who engage in highrisk sexual behavior or use intravenous drugs. Pregnant women should be tested during the early months of their pregnancy to help eliminate transmission of HIV to their infants.

The Southern Nevada Health District's Office of HIV/AIDS/STDs is located inside Annex A at the health district's main public health center, 625 Shadow Lane. Services include confidential testing, counseling, case management and referrals. The health district offers several HIV test options, some with same-day results. In addition, testing is available at several locations throughout the community.

Updated information about the Southern Nevada Health District can be found on Facebook www.facebook.com/SouthernNevadaHealthDistrict, on YouTube www.youtube.com/SNHealthDistrict or Twitter: www.twitter.com/SNHDinfo.

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Editor's Note: If you are interested in covering an HIV testing event on June 27 or June 28, please contact the following:

Candice Nichols/Gay & Lesbian Center of Southern Nevada: (702) 733-9800

Pastor Susan Miller/Canyon Ridge Church: (702) 658-2722