

PRESS RELEASE 6-18--04
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: TIM O'CONNOR
561-355-3576 (355-3038 FAX)

IT IS BETTER TO KNOW
JUNE 27, 2004 HIV TEST DAY

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL—The Palm Beach County Health Department in conjunction with its community health partners has organized a number of sites for the week of June 24 – 27 to test for HIV and recognize test day June 27.

Estimates show that as many as 25,000 of the 100,000 HIV infected persons in Florida don't know they are HIV positive. Palm Beach County Health Department Director, Jean Malecki, MD said, "We have seen 450 new HIV infections in each of the last two years. With the advances in the diagnosis and treatment of HIV/AIDS people need to know their status to be able to take advantage of these advancements and control their health." Simply stated, Malecki added, "It is better to know."

Along with the testing sites the Office of Black Catholic Ministry of the Diocese of Palm Beach, Health Department, Urban League of Palm Beach County, Comprehensive AIDS Program, and other organization are sponsoring a Youth and Young Adult Health Summit on the education and prevention of HIV/AIDS June 25 – 27 at Suncoast High School in Riviera Beach. The weekend is being presented in a fun and exciting format that will both train and educate young people on HIV/AIDS as well as provide HIV testing. Information on the Youth Summit can be obtained from Elizabeth Robinson at Palm Beach County Health Department, 561-882-3254 or 561-775-9568.

Sites available for HIV testing include:

More

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June 24, 2004

Comprehensive AIDS Program, Boca Raton, 6 p. m. – 9 p.m.,

United Deliverance Resource Center, West Palm Beach, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

June 25, 2004

Comprehensive AIDS Program, West Palm Beach, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Hope House of the Palm Beaches, West Palm Beach, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Suncoast High School Youth Summit, Riviera Beach, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

June 26, 2004

Comprehensive AIDS Program, West Palm Beach, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Suncoast High School Youth Summit, Riviera Beach, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

June 27, 2004

COMPASS, Inc., West Palm Beach, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Glades Health Initiative, Belle Glade, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Redemptive Life Fellowship, West Palm Beach, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Suncoast High School Youth Summit, Riviera Beach, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

HIV test sites can be obtained by calling the HIV/AIDS Program at the Palm Beach

County Health Department – 561-882-3200.