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Division of Public and Behavioral Health

NEWS RELEASE

National HIV Testing Day, June 27, 2016

Carson City – Free HIV testing is available in Carson City, Reno, and Las Vegas. If you need to find a testing center in your local area please refer to <https://gettested.cdc.gov>. There will be four locations in Nevada offering free HIV testing on Monday, June 27, the National HIV Testing Day. The Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health urges Nevadans to “Start Talking. Stop HIV.” Knowing your status is important, and testing is quick and easy.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), too many people are unaware they have human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). In the United States, nearly 1.2 million people are living with HIV, and almost one in seven (14%) do not know they are infected. In 2015, in Nevada, there were 477 new HIV diagnoses, and over 10,138 persons living with HIV, including HIV stage 3 (AIDS).

The most common ways HIV is transmitted in the United States is by having sex or sharing drug injection equipment with a person infected with HIV. This behavior increases one’s risk, and these individuals should be tested for HIV at least once a year. However, everyone between the ages of 13 and 64 should be tested at least once in their lifetime.

Getting tested is the first step to finding out if you have HIV. If you have HIV, medical care and medications help you live a longer, healthier life and decrease the chance of passing HIV on to others.

FREE TESTING LOCATIONS

Carson City: Carson City Health and Human Services, Monday – Wednesday, Friday 8:30am to 12:00pm, 1:00pm to 5:00pm. Drop in at 900 East Long Street, Carson City. For more information call (775) 887-2190.

Reno: Northern Nevada HOPES, Monday – Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Drop in at 467 Ralston Street, Reno or make an appointment by calling (775) 786-4673 and Washoe County Health District, Monday, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 7:30 am – 5 pm, 1001 E 9th St Bldg. B Reno, NV 89512. For more information call (775) 328-2470.

Las Vegas:, Monday, June 27, free testing will be available at the following locations: Canyon Ridge Church, 6200 W. Lone Mountain Rd. , from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Gay and Lesbian Center of Southern Nevada, 401 S. Maryland Pkwy., from 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 pm. For more information call (702) 733-9800.

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For more information about National HIV Testing Day and general HIV and AIDS facts, please visit <http://health.nv.gov/HIVCarePrevention.htm>, <https://www.aids.gov/news-and-events/awareness-days/hiv-testing-day/>, <https://gettested.cdc.gov>, or www.cdc.gov/hiv. Data for this press release were obtained from the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health’s *Fast Facts (2015)* and *HIV/AIDS Epidemiological Profile Update (2013)*, available at http://health.nv.gov/HIV_AIDS_SurveillancePgm.htm.




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