



District 2 Public Health

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Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union and White Counties

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FREE HIV TESTING AVAILABLE ON JUNE 27

GAINESVILLE, GA – District 2 Public Health and Good News at Noon are teaming up to offer free rapid testing for HIV on June 27, 2009 in observance of National HIV Testing Day. The oral swab tests will be available at Good News at Noon located at 979 Davis Street, Gainesville from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Confidential results from the test are given in about 20 minutes but persons should allow about an hour or an hour-and-a-half for education, testing and counseling. If your test is positive for HIV, a follow-up blood test will be scheduled with the health department or with your doctor.

The U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that one out of five people living with HIV/AIDS in the U.S. is unaware of their HIV status. National Testing Day is an opportunity for people to learn of their HIV status and to gain knowledge to take control of their lives.

Georgia ranked eighth highest in the nation for its reported rate of HIV/AIDS cases in 2006. The 13 counties that make up District 2 Public Health have reported 404 cases of both HIV and AIDS from 1982 through 2007.

For more information about HIV/AIDS visit:

<http://www.hhs.gov/aidsawarenessdays/days/testing/index.html>

<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/>

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