



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Emily Snooks: (214) 363-2004

Press Release

June 27, National HIV Testing Day: Take the Test. Take Control.

One in three people living with HIV is unaware of their status

DALLAS – National HIV Testing Day (NHTD) – next Monday, June 27th – is an annual campaign produced by the National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA) to encourage at-risk individuals to receive voluntary HIV counseling and testing. North Texans may receive no-cost* or low-cost HIV tests at any of Planned Parenthood of North Texas' (PPNT) 28 clinics covering 57 counties, including Collin, Dallas, Denton and Tarrant.

Did you know the impact of AIDS on women is growing rapidly? According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC):

- 30% of new HIV infections are found in women
- Women accounted for 7% of new AIDS cases in 1986 and **25% in 2002**
- 75% of new HIV infections are due to heterosexual sex
- African-American women account for 64% of new AIDS cases reported among women
- Latinas account for 17%

The lack of awareness of women's risk of HIV infection among health care providers too often means that women are tested and diagnosed later in their infection. Many women are infected by male partners without having any awareness of being at risk of infection and are often unlikely to seek testing until symptoms appear.

Anyone can receive a low-cost HIV test at any of PPNT's clinic locations. Anyone who may be at-risk can receive a no-cost HIV test at 14 of PPNT's clinics. For more information about clinic locations, patients should call 1-800-265-1551.

*PPNT receives a grant from the Department of State Health Services to provide no-cost HIV testing to patients at highest risk of infection in the North Texas area. This grant provides clinical and outreach testing as well as education and prevention case management. PPNT works in collaboration with other AIDS service organizations in Dallas and Fort Worth to help reduce the rate of HIV infection through education, testing, and counseling.



For 70 years, Planned Parenthood has provided compassionate health care in North Texas. In 2004, PPNT served more than 82,000 patients in its 28 clinics. PPNT also provides health education outreach to 13,000 individuals a year.

*“Celebrating 70 years of providing compassionate health care in North Texas communities.”
(1935-2005)*