
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 29, 2012

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**Health Department Offers Numerous HIV Testing Opportunities for
World AIDS Day 2012**

GRAND RAPIDS, MI – More than one million people in the United States are living with HIV, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Recent statistics show 832 people living in Kent County today have been diagnosed as having either HIV or AIDS, but the estimated prevalence (taking into account people who have not yet been diagnosed) is 1,080 people. Saturday, December 1 is World AIDS Day. The Kent County Health Department (KCHD) will offer numerous confidential or anonymous opportunities to get tested for HIV without an appointment and free of charge.

Saturday, December 1, 2012, KCHD is involved in two events where testing will be available:

World AIDS Day 2012 - An Evening for the Community to Reflect, React and Rejoice

Fountain Street Church, 24 Fountain St NE, Grand Rapids

Testing is scheduled from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

World AIDS Day – A Discussion on the Status of HIV, featuring Jake Mossop (from MTV)

Wealthy Theatre, 1130 Wealthy Street SE, Grand Rapids

Testing is scheduled from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Monday, December 3, 2012, KCHD is offering two additional opportunities to get tested:

Kent County Health Department - Free walk-in testing

700 Fuller NE, Grand Rapids

Testing is available from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Grand Valley State University – World AIDS Day Event

DeVos Building, on the Pew Campus in Grand Rapids

Testing is scheduled from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m.

“Our staff is dedicated to educating everyone about HIV prevention,” said Cathy Raevsky, Administrative Health Officer for KCHD. “Testing and early diagnosis can save lives. Preliminary results from our testing take about 20 minutes, and our knowledgeable staff can provide information about prevention of HIV and AIDS during that wait.”

KCHD has been in the business of providing health services to Kent County since 1931. The Health Department is home to nearly 260 employees including public health nurses, sanitarians, health educators, technicians, public health administrators, and specialized staff at the Kent County Animal Shelter. The Health Department operates one main clinic and four satellite clinics located in Wyoming, Kentwood, Rockford, and Grand Rapids. To learn more about KCHD services, visit www.accesskent.com/health.

700 FULLER AVE. NE, GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503

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World AIDS Day began in 1988, when the World Health Organization designated December 1 as the day to show solidarity in the fight against AIDS. Please feel free to use the photo below for online, on air, social media or print.

DECEMBER 1, 2012
WORLD AIDS DAY

KNOW YOUR STATUS
GIVE YOUR RESPECT
SHOW YOUR LOVE

GET TESTED
Kent County Health Department
Free Walk-in Testing
December 3, 2012 - 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.
616.632.7171
www.accesskent.com/health

The graphic is a vertical rectangle with a black border. The left side features a heart shape formed by colorful beads (red, green, yellow, black) on a blue background. The beads spell out "GET TESTED CARE" at the top, "KNOW YOUR STATUS" on the left, "GIVE YOUR RESPECT" at the bottom, and "SHOW YOUR LOVE" on the right. The right side has a red background with white text.

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