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GET TESTED FOR HIV TODAY AND LEARN ABOUT NEW MEDICATIONS

DOH-Okaloosa has launched an HIV Outreach Program locally to have a positive impact on this preventable, testable and treatable disease.



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Okaloosa County, Fla. — The Florida Department of Health is implementing a statewide HIV and AIDS prevention campaign. The Okaloosa County campaign is being implemented to promote testing and treatment for HIV, on television, radio and outdoor advertising, to include local transit buses.

"HIV is still a public health concern, and we encourage everyone between the ages of 13 and 64 to get tested for HIV at least once as part of routine health care," stated Dr. Karen A. Chapman, Director of DOH-Okaloosa. "The good news is, with the new medications available today, for anyone who is HIV negative – acquiring HIV can be prevented, and for those who are HIV positive – it is possible to live a long, healthy, happy and productive life."

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), about 1 in 5 don't know they have HIV, and an estimated 1.1 million people in the US are living with HIV. The Florida Department of Health in Okaloosa County (DOH-Okaloosa) offers free rapid access HIV testing and treatment services during regular business hours at their clinic office. DOH- A list of its outreach programs is below:

- DOH-Okaloosa launched a new mobile community-based HIV testing initiative to help make testing available to Okaloosa and Walton county residents.
- DOH-Okaloosa is partnering with locations throughout Okaloosa and Walton counties to host HIV testing. To arrange HIV testing at your location, businesses, churches and community organizations can contact Aaron Hill at 850-428-0205.
- DOH-Okaloosa offers PrEP to individuals that are at high risk of HIV. Individuals can contact DOH-Okaloosa at 850-833-9246 to make an appointment for an HIV test and PrEP consultation. PrEP is a once-daily pill that can reduce the risk of acquiring HIV in HIV-negative individuals. **PrEP should be used in conjunction with other prevention methods like condoms to reduce the risk of infection.** According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), taking PrEP daily reduces the risk of getting HIV by more than 90 percent.

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For the DOH-Okaloosa Clinic hours of operation or for more information, visit www.HealthyOkaloosa.com. For other information on HIV, call the Florida AIDS Hotline at 1-800-FLA-AIDS or 1-800-352-2437; En Espanol, 1-800-545-SIDA; In Creole, 1-800-AIDS-101.

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