



Public Health
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Frederick County Health Department

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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WORLD AIDS DAY IS DECEMBER 1, 2017 **Free Event at Frederick Community College November 30, 2017**

FREDERICK, MD -- In recognition of World AIDS Day on December 1, 2017 the Frederick County Health Department, in partnership with Frederick Community College (FCC), The Frederick Center, and the Asian American Center will host a World AIDS Day event on November 30, 2017. This event will be held at FCC from 6PM-8PM in the Student Center Dining Hall, located at 7932 Opossumtown Pike. Come join us as we honor those lost to AIDS and to celebrate those living with HIV/AIDS. Chris Camp a longtime advocate and activist will emcee an evening of friendship, food, interactive World AIDS Day Jeopardy contest with prizes, and performance by Drag Divas K.C Florance and Tiffany Dee Knight! Free on-site testing and free HIV Home Kits will be available. Bring a can or boxed food item to donate to the Frederick Community Action Agency (FCAA). Everyone is invited!

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The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) States that globally, an estimate of 36.7 million persons are living with HIV/AIDS. Each year more than 1 million people die from AIDS-related causes and 2.1 million become newly infected by HIV. Two-thirds of new HIV infections worldwide occur in sub-Saharan Africa. In the United States, 1.1 million people are living with HIV, and 1 in 7 people don't know they are infected with HIV.

Maryland Department of Health records 1,118 adult/adolescent HIV cases (age 13+) diagnosed in Maryland in 2016. And at the end 2016, 30,430 adults/adolescents were living with HIV in Maryland. Maryland was ranked 5th among U.S. states in adult/adolescent HIV diagnosis rates (per 100,000) and 3rd in AIDS diagnosis rates (per 100,000) in 2015.

The CDC recommends everyone between the ages of 13 and 64 get tested at least once for HIV, and that some people should get tested more often. For more information on the World AIDS Day event and/or for HIV testing call Ken Melnick at 301-600-3388. The Frederick County Health Department offers the following STD-related services:

- Free rapid HIV testing, results in as little as 10 minutes
- Free treatment for syphilis, as needed
- Free STI screening for age 20 years and younger
- Partner notification for HIV, syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia
 - Our Disease Intervention Specialist can assist with locating and informing partners at risk for STD's.
- HIV treatment and case management
- HIV support groups

For more information about HIV/AIDS visit the Frederick County Health Department Website at:

<http://health.frederickcountymd.gov/256/HIV-AIDS-Services>.

Or the CDC website at: www.cdc.gov/HIV

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