



Jeb Bush
Governor

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Secretary, Department of Health

PINELLAS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Thursday, June 22, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

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PINELLAS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
727-824-6908 (for media use only)

Free screening and prevention information
National HIV Testing Day

In observance of **National HIV Testing Day**, the Pinellas County Health Department, in conjunction with community partners – AIDS Services Association of Pinellas (ASAP), WestCare and the Metro Center – will offer prevention education and free HIV testing during the **St. Petersburg Pride Festival**. The event will be held on **Saturday, June 24, 2006** on Central Avenue between 31st and 22nd Streets in St. Petersburg.

Outreach teams will be at the event from **11am until 3 pm**, distributing condoms, providing information about HIV, STDs and hepatitis and providing referrals for testing.

The Metro Center will offer Orasure and rapid HIV testing that day at its Thrift Store, located at 2235 Central Avenue, St. Petersburg. ASAP will also provide rapid testing at 2410 Central Avenue in St. Petersburg. For more information about rapid testing, contact Kyle Lidge of the Metro Center at 321-3854 or David Karst of ASAP at 865-7629. Other test sites providing free HIV testing on Saturday, June 24 include: ASAP/Suncoast Resort - office 865-7629 from 2pm to 9pm

On **Tuesday, June 27, National HIV Testing Day**, the Pinellas County Health Department will offer free HIV testing at all five of its health centers from 9 am until 3 pm.

For more information about HIV/AIDS, visit www.napwa.org or www.cdc.gov

For information about local testing and counseling services, please call the Pinellas County Health Department at (727) 824-6900 or visit our website at www.pinellashealth.com

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The mission of the Pinellas County Health Department is to promote, protect and improve the health and safety of residents and visitors through public and private community efforts.
www.PinellasHealth.com