



Rick Scott  
Governor

H. Frank Farmer, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.  
State Surgeon General

**NATIONAL LATINO AIDS AWARENESS DAY: “UNITED WE CAN: HIV STOPS HERE”**

**Collier:** October 15<sup>th</sup> is National Latino AIDS Awareness Day (NLAAD), which reminds all Americans, specifically Hispanics and Latinos, HIV testing should be part of their routine health care. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends everyone between the ages of 14 and 64 take an HIV test at least once a year, due to the fact that at least 25 percent of those infected do not know that they are HIV-positive. Early diagnosis and treatment of HIV infection is key to maintaining personal health and for preventing the spread of HIV to others.

In Collier County, Hispanics account for 21% of Collier County’s total population. Based upon data from the Florida Department of Health, 23% of the cumulative reported AIDS cases in Collier County are individuals of Hispanic origin. In addition, Hispanics currently make up 38% of the county’s reported HIV+ cases (individuals who are HIV+, but who have not yet advanced to AIDS). Since HIV reporting tends to reflect more recent infection, there is evidence that an increase in case rates is occurring within the Hispanic population of Collier County. Whether we realize it or not, HIV/AIDS is in our neighborhoods, and it affects all of us here in Collier County.

For this reason, the HIV/AIDS Network of Collier County (HANCC) is proud to sponsor the following FREE events celebrating National Latino AIDS Awareness Day from October 10<sup>th</sup> through October 15<sup>th</sup>. Some of these sites will be offering Rapid HIV testing with same day results. Others will offer traditional testing with a two-to-three week wait for results.

October 10	FREE Rapid HIV Testing: Marion E. Fether Medical Center.- Immokalee FREE HIV Testing: Project Help.- Naples	8am - 6pm 9am - 4pm
October 11	FREE Rapid HIV Testing: Marion E. Fether Medical Center.- Immokalee FREE Rapid HIV Testing: Collier County Health Dept.- Naples FREE HIV Testing: Project Help.- Naples	8am - 4pm 8:30am - 4pm 9am - 4pm
October 12	FREE Rapid HIV Testing: Marion E. Fether Medical Center FREE Rapid HIV Testing: Collier County Health Dept.- Immokalee FREE Rapid HIV Testing: Collier County Health Dept.- Naples FREE HIV Testing: Project Help.- Naples	8am - 6pm 8:30pm - 4pm 8:30am - 4pm 9am - 4pm
October 13	FREE Rapid HIV Testing: Marion E. Fether Medical Center.- Immokalee FREE Rapid HIV Testing: Collier County Health Dept.- Naples FREE HIV Testing: Project Help.- Naples FREE HIV Testing: ICAN.- Naples	8am - 4pm 8:30am - 4pm 9am - 4pm 9am - 5pm
October 14	FREE Rapid HIV Testing: Marion E. Fether Medical Center FREE HIV Testing: Project Help.- Naples FREE HIV Testing: ICAN.- Naples	8am - 4pm 9am - 4pm 9am - 5pm
October 15	FREE Rapid HIV Testing: Planned Parenthood Collier County.- Naples	10am - 1pm

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