### PRESS RELEASE



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# Prince George's County Health Department Offers Free HIV Testing to Commemorate National Latino AIDS Awareness Day, El Dia Nacional de Concientizacion Latina Del SIDA, on October 15, 2018

**LARGO, MD** – The Prince George's County Health Department, in collaboration with the community-based organization La Clinica Del Pueblo, Inc., will commemorate National Latino AIDS Awareness Day on **Monday, October 15** by offering free HIV testing and other HIV-related services.

"We need to ensure our residents understand that HIV infection is preventable," said Prince George's County Health Officer Pamela B. Creekmur. "Practicing safe sex, regular testing, and appropriate treatment greatly reduce the risk of infection and the risk of spreading the deadly virus to others."

According to the <u>CDC</u>, Hispanics/Latinos represent approximately 18% of the U.S. population, but account for 25% of new HIV infections in 2015, the most recent year of available data. In Prince George's County, more than 500 Latino residents are living with HIV with potentially more who don't know their status.

This year's National Latino AIDS Awareness Day theme is "Ending HIV is Everyone's Job." Prince George's County's October 15<sup>th</sup> event with La Clinica Del Pueblo will offer free HIV counseling, HIV prevention information, referrals and testing that is confidential, bilingual and culturally competent.

#### Event details:

La Union Mall 1401 East University Blvd. Hyattsville, Maryland 20783 HIV Testing: 11 a.m. until 7 p.m.

# \*There will be giveaways!

For additional information about National Latino AIDS Awareness Day activities, contact Rhonda Wallace at 301-583-3170.

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