REQUESTING VENDORS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 7TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY CELEBRATION



Contact:

Noelda Lopez, Public Information Specialist

Noelda.Lopez@flhealth.gov

Office: 352-589-6424, After Hours: 352-728-7662

Eustis, FL – The Florida Department of Health in Lake County is requesting vendors who are interested in participating in their 7th **Annual World AIDS Day** celebration to be held at Barry Park in Leesburg on **Friday, December 2st from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.** Vendors will be selected based on items that complement the theme of the festival. Space is limited and there is no charge to vendors who participate in the event. We are asking vendors to bring their table and chairs.

The most recent statistics states that Florida ranks third in the nation in the number of AIDS cases and at the end of February 2015 a total of 104,342 adults in Florida were living with HIV/AIDS. In 2014 in Florida, 32% of all cases were among persons aged 50 and over. For 23 consecutive years HIV/AIDS has been the leading cause of death for black females between the ages of 25-44 and is currently the 3rd leading cause of death for black males ages 25-44. In addition, the February 2015 statistics indicate the following for all the HIV/AIDS cases in Florida: Whites 30%, Blacks 47% and Hispanic race 22% with 1% being other race. MSM (men who have sex with men) are at 45% which is slightly higher. New data also suggests that in Lake County we have reported 163 new cases of HIV in the last 5 years and 114 new cases of Aids.

"We are hosting our 7th annual event so residents and visitors can help our community fight this disease by taking charge and getting tested," said Florida Department of Health in Lake County Administrator Aaron Kissler.

For more information, please contact the Florida Department of Health in Lake County at 352-771-5547.

About the Florida Department of Health

The department, nationally accredited by the <u>Public Health Accreditation Board</u>, works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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