

District 2 Public Health

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Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union and White Counties

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DATE: June 22, 2015

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County Health Departments to Offer Free HIV Testing

GAINESVILLE, GA – The following County Health Departments will offer FREE HIV testing from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. on the days listed below:

Franklin County June 24
Forsyth County June 25
Rabun County June 26
Hall County June 30

The test for HIV requires a simple finger stick. If an individual has a positive reading, follow up diagnostic testing may be necessary to determine if the person is HIV positive. Each person tested will receive education and counseling about HIV and the test. One in seven people in the United States who are HIV positive do not know they are infected. The CDC recommends that everyone between the ages of 13 and 64 be tested at least once for HIV. People who are at higher risk for HIV infection should be tested more often. These groups include:

- People who inject drugs,
- Individuals who have had several sex partners,
- Men who have sex with men,
- People who have had a sexually transmitted disease, or
- Those who have sought treatment for hepatitis or tuberculosis.