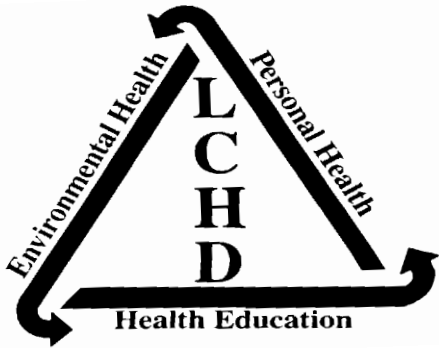


## MEDIA RELEASE



Date: June 22, 2018  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Leslie Dougherty (ext. 225) or Jenny Barrie (ext. 226)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### “HIV Testing Day”

Ottawa, IL – National HIV Testing Day is on Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. This is the 25th annual HIV Testing Day campaign. The goal of the campaign is to identify people who are HIV positive and don’t know it so they can access treatment. In honor of this day, the LaSalle County Health Department will be offering free HIV oral swab tests on June 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. There is no appointment necessary these will be done on a walk-in basis. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), about one in seven people in the United States who have HIV don’t know that they are HIV positive. Young people are the most likely to be unaware of their HIV infection.

While we have made tremendous strides in treating HIV disease and related infections, those advances mean little to someone who doesn’t know they are infected. If you have ever had unprotected sex with someone who uses injectable drugs, if you have ever shared needles, if you are a man who has ever had sex with another man, or if you have other factors that put you at risk for HIV infection, you should consider getting an HIV test. Today more tools than ever are available to prevent HIV. In addition to limiting your number of sexual partners, never sharing needles and using condoms correctly and consistently, you can reduce your risk.

To learn more information about HIV, contact the LaSalle County Health Department at 433-3366. You can also access our website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). And like us on Facebook/Twitter.

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