



## Press Release

---

### MEDIA CONTACT:

Eric Roland  
Senior Director of Marketing  
Legacy Community Health Services  
Phone: (713) 830-3068  
[eroland@legacycommunityhealth.org](mailto:eroland@legacycommunityhealth.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 9, 2009

## ***“Despierta. Toma Control. Hazte la Prueba del VIH”***

### **Legacy Community Health Services offers FREE Rapid HIV Testing To Recognize National Latino AIDS Awareness Day**

**Houston**—On Friday, October 16, 2009, Legacy Community Health Services will offer free rapid HIV testing from 9:00AM to 4:00PM at two locations as an official event for National Latino AIDS Awareness Day. Legacy’s Spanish-speaking health educators will be available at both testing sites to provide prevention counseling and education to all Latinos in Houston.

“We encourage anyone - regardless of their race or ethnicity - who feels like they may be at risk for HIV to get tested,” said Katy Caldwell, Executive Director of Legacy Community Health Services. “There are a growing number of new HIV infections among Hispanic Houstonians and we need to continue to raise awareness even after this annual awareness day.”

According to the City of Houston Department of Health and Human Services, 21 percent of Houston/Harris County’s HIV cases were among Hispanics. In 2006, HIV/AIDS was the 5<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death among Hispanic men ages 25-44 and 3<sup>rd</sup> leading cause of death among Hispanic women ages 25-44.

As one day during Hispanic Heritage Month, National Latino AIDS Awareness Day (NLAAD) was established on October 15, 2003 in response to the devastating impact HIV/AIDS has had on Hispanic/Latino communities across the country. The purpose of NLAAD is to draw attention to the critical role HIV testing and prevention education plays in stemming the spread of HIV/AIDS among Hispanic/Latinos. For more information on NLAAD, visit [www.nlaad.org](http://www.nlaad.org).

Free rapid HIV testing will be offered from 9:00AM to 4:00PM at two clinic locations on Friday, October 16, 2009:

- 215 Westheimer Road, Houston, TX 77006
- 5602 Lyons Avenue, Houston, TX 77020

**Legacy Community Health Services** is a full-service, Federally Qualified Health Center that provides comprehensive, primary healthcare services to all Houstonians in a culturally sensitive, judgment-free and confidential environment. Legacy specializes in HIV/AIDS testing and treatment. Generous financial support from individuals, businesses and charitable foundations allows Legacy to provide no-cost or low-cost healthcare services to over 20,000 men, women and children each year.

[www.legacycommunityhealth.org](http://www.legacycommunityhealth.org)

###