



**Warren C. Evans**  
Wayne County Executive

# Wayne County Department of Health, Veterans & Community Wellness

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**WAYNE COUNTY TO PROVIDE FREE TESTING ON NATIONAL HIV TESTING DAY**

**WAYNE, MICH.** –The Wayne County Wellness Services Division will offer free HIV testing and counseling on National HIV Testing Day June 27, 2016. The testing will take place at the Wayne Health Center, 33030 Van Born Rd. in Wayne, MI, and the Hamtramck Health Center, 9021 Joseph Campau, Hamtramck MI, from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (The Wayne Clinic is closed between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. for lunch) Testing is open to all Wayne County residents on a walk in basis and no appointment is necessary.

National HIV Testing Day is an annual observance dedicated to motivating teens and adults to get tested for HIV and know their status. According to the Centers for Disease Control more than 1.2 million people in the United States are living with HIV and almost one in eight people are unaware of their infection.

“Regular testing is one of our most powerful tools against HIV/AIDS, and so is talking about it openly,” said Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans. “Misinformation keeps too many people from getting tested. We need to work together to ensure that Wayne County residents have the knowledge, resources and support necessary to protect their health and the health of others.”

People getting tested can expect a brief screening process, which includes a series of questions to assess your risk level for having contracted HIV. All testing records are kept confidential. Blood is taken from a finger prick and results are provided within 30 minutes. If the test is positive, a venous blood draw is taken, with the sample sent to the State lab (Wayne) or a



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private lab (Hamtramck) for confirmation. The Wayne and Hamtramck Clinics will follow up with the client on the results of the tests sent to each lab.

“Our goal is to raise awareness of the risk of HIV in addition to eliminating the stigma and the misconceptions about who might be at risk,” said Dr. Mouhanad Hammami, Director, Wayne County Department of Health, Veterans and Community Wellness. “Our department has administered over 1,060 HIV tests since January of 2015. HIV/AIDS is a real threat in our community and we must continue our advocacy and push towards greater access to treatment for all.”

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that those 13 and older get tested for HIV at least once in their lifetime. Getting tested for HIV is the only way to find out if you have HIV. Getting tested is the first step to accessing medical care and preventing the spread of the virus. Without medical care, HIV leads to AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome) and premature death.

For more information please call the Wayne Health Center at 734-727-7100 or the Hamtramck Health Center at 313-871-1926

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