

P.O. Box 2009 • 1601 East Hazelton Ave. • Stockton, CA 95201-2009
phone (209) 468.3411 • fax (209) 468.3823. • www.sjcphs.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release # 73

CONTACT for this Release:
Krista Dommer, Alternate PIO
Office Phone: (209) 468-3571
Email: kdommer@sjcphs.org

Karen Furst, M.D., M.P.H.
Health Officer
William Mitchell, M.P.H.
Director

WORLD AIDS DAY OBSERVED IN SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY, DECEMBER 1, 2011

Prevention is Everybody's Business

STOCKTON, CA (November 29, 2011) – World AIDS Day is observed annually on December 1st. The World Health Organization established this day in 1988 to provide individuals and organizations with an opportunity to demonstrate the importance of the fight against HIV/AIDS. Worldwide, the estimated number of people living with HIV is more than 33 million. In the United States, nearly one million people are estimated to be living with HIV infection and about one-quarter are not aware of their infection. As of December 31, 2010, there have been 1,423 cases of AIDS reported in San Joaquin County since 1983.

The World AIDS Day activities taking place in San Joaquin County on Thursday, December 1, 2011, promote awareness of HIV/AIDS in San Joaquin County and illuminate ongoing efforts in the community. These events include:

- 1. STD & HIV/AIDS Awareness- African American Community Forum:**
San Joaquin County Public Health Services HIV/AIDS/STD Program is facilitating this event in conjunction with several community-based organizations. The Community Forum is free; however, an RSVP is required by Wednesday, November 30th. Lunch will be provided for those who RSVP, call 209-468-3891 to register.
Time: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Place: Health Plan of San Joaquin
7751 S. Manthey Road, French Camp, CA 95231
- 2. San Joaquin AIDS Walk – Candlelight Vigil:**
Time: 6:30 pm
Place: University of the Pacific, Morris Chapel
3601 Pacific Avenue, Stockton, CA

For more information on HIV/AIDS and STD Education and Prevention or HIV Antibody Testing in San Joaquin County, please visit the San Joaquin County Public Health Services website at <http://www.sjcphs.org> or call the Public Health Services HIV/AIDS/STD Program at 209-468-3820. Additional information may be found on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at www.cdc.gov or by calling its toll-free telephone number 1-800-232-4636.

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Attachment: Background and Data Information Sheet