

September 20, 2019

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN LEE COUNTY CELEBRATES NATIONAL LATINX HIV AWARENESS DAY



Contact: Tammy Yzaguirre
Lee-Pio@flhealth.gov

On September 21st, the Florida Department of Health in Lee County (FDOH-Lee), in partnership, with the AIDS Healthcare Foundation will be participating in the 1st annual VIVA Fort Myers in celebration of National Latinx AIDS Awareness Day (NLAAD). FDOH-Lee will be providing free HIV/STD awareness, prevention, and screening.

VIVA Fort Myers is co-organized by Businesses Supporting Communities and Southwest Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. The event is family-friendly and will include a free kid's play area with inflatables, a rock-wall, arts & crafts, and more for children of all ages.

WHEN: Saturday, September 21, 2019
2 pm to 7 pm

WHERE: Centennial Park
2000 West First Street
Fort Myers, FL 33907

National Latinx AIDS Awareness Day (NLAAD) is observed each year on October 15 to increase awareness of the impact of HIV/AIDS on the Hispanic/Latino population in the United States. Hispanic/Latinos in the United States (US) are disproportionately impacted by HIV/AIDS. They represent 18% of the US population yet accounted for almost for 26% of the 40,324 new HIV diagnoses in 2016 in the United States and 6 dependent areas. Factors such as lack of health insurance, language barriers, lack of familiarity with the US healthcare system and stigma often limit the health care access of Hispanics/Latinos in the US, thereby limiting opportunities for HIV/AIDS screening and treatment. Given that Hispanics/Latinos are the largest and fastest growing minority group in the US, addressing HIV/AIDS in their community is important to the nation's health.

About the Florida Department of Health

The department, nationally accredited by the [Public Health Accreditation Board](#), works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

Follow us on Twitter at [@HealthyFla](#) and on [Facebook](#). For more information about the Florida Department of Health please visit www.FloridaHealth.gov.