



Take Charge. Get Tested.
*Day-long free testing event
in observance of National HIV Testing Day*

- WHO**
- Jacqueline Brown, Empowerment Resource Center, Inc.
 - Pat Parsons, Saint Joseph Hospital's Mercy Care Services, Inc.
 - Georgia State Senator Nan Orrock Senate District 36
 - Georgia State Representative Robbin Shipp, District 58
 - Georgia State Representative Margaret Kaiser, District 59
 - Georgia State Representative Tyrone L. Brooks, Sr., District 63, and President, Georgia Association of Black Elected Officials.
 - Fulton County Commissioner Nancy A. Boxhill, District 6
 - Atlanta City Councilman Kwanza Hall, District 2
- WHAT**
- Kick off of a day-long free HIV testing event in observance of Annual HIV Testing Day in partnership with the Saint Joseph Hospital's Mercy Care Services, Big Bethel A.M.E. Church, Fulton County Department of Public Health, and other Atlanta HIV and AIDS service organizations.
- WHEN**
- Saturday, June 27, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.
Free HIV testing will be available until 7 p.m.
- WHERE**
- Auburn Avenue, between Bell Street and Jesse Hill Jr. Drive,
236 Auburn Avenue N.E. (Odd Fellows building)
Atlanta, GA 30303
For more information about testing, contact 404-526-1145.
- WHY**
- The goal is to test at least 500 metro Atlantans with a Rapid Test that is simple to use and requires only 20 minutes to take. However, recent data underscore the need for increased testing among African American women:
- Georgia is ranked the 8th highest in the national for HIV/AIDS cases.
 - 50% of all newly diagnosed HIV cases reside in Fulton and DeKalb counties.
 - 38% of Georgians newly diagnosed with aids between ages 35 and 44.
 - In Georgia, 79% of newly diagnosed HIV cases are Non-Hispanic African American and one-thirds of new female HIV and AIDS diagnoses in 2006 were in African American females.
 - Research shows that if people become aware that they are infected with HIV, they will modify their behaviors, thus reducing the possibility that they will spread the virus to others.

