



NBHAAD PRESS RELEASE

SACRAMENTO, CA—February 7 is National Black HIV AIDS Awareness Day. Since 1999 the primary goal of the National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is to encourage African Americans to get tested and know their HIV status; get educated about transmission modes of HIV/AIDS; get involved in their local community; and get treated if they are currently living with HIV or are newly diagnosed.

African Americans have been disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS since the epidemic's beginning and that disparity has deepened over time. Although African Americans represent only 12% of the U.S. population, they account for 44% of new HIV infections. African Americans account for more new HIV infections, people estimated to be living with HIV disease, and HIV related deaths than any other racial/ethnic group in the United States. Approximately 1 in 16 African American men will be diagnosed with HIV during their lifetime, and 1 in 32 African American women.

In response to the disproportionate rates of HIV in the African American community, cities from around the country have designated February 7 as National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness day and are hosting community events to raise awareness including health fairs, candle light vigils, and marches.

Golden Rule Services is hosting its annual National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day event on **February 7, 2017 at 4433 Florin Road, Suite #760, Sacramento, CA from Noon to 6 p.m.** Participants will be encouraged to obtain current HIV/AIDS educational materials, condoms and harm reduction materials, free rapid HIV testing, and seek treatment if they are HIV-positive. Participants will also enjoy music, food and soft drinks, raffles and prizes. **For more information about this event, please visit our website at goldenruleservicesacramento.org or call (916) 427-4653.**

