



# GOLDEN RULE SERVICES PRESS RELEASE

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## **NATIONAL WOMEN'S AND GIRL'S HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY**

**SACRAMENTO, CA** — Women have been affected by HIV/AIDS since the beginning of the epidemic. Women account for 1 in 5 (20%) new HIV infections in the U.S. The latest estimates from the CDC show that almost 300,000 women are living with HIV in the U.S. **A study of 40 U.S. states and territories shows that 66 percent of the women who were diagnosed with HIV in 2009 were African-American, 17 percent were white, and 14 percent were Hispanic or Latina.**

**Women of Color, particularly Black women, have been especially hit hard and represent the majority of women living with the disease and women newly infected (60%).** Most women with HIV are not in regular care and only a quarter are virally suppressed. About 1 in 4 women postpone medical care because of barriers such as family, depression, or threat of partner violence

It's important that every woman protect herself from getting HIV, no matter what her race or ethnicity. The national strategy to fight HIV/AIDS **encourages all women and girls older than 15 get tested at least once to find out their HIV status.**

Golden Rule Services encourages all women to learn more about HIV/AIDS, obtain a free rapid HIV antibody test, enter treatment as soon as possible if HIV positive, and get involved in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

On this National Women's and Girl's HIV/AIDS Awareness Day we encourage every sexually active woman and girl to **call 916-427-4653 to set-up an appointment with us to get your FREE HIV screening test.**

**MBC**