

90/90/90 and the Frederick HIV Coalition program

February 2, 2017 -- Frederick, MD

Working in close partnership with the Frederick County Health Department, and with the generous funding support of the Community Foundation of Frederick County, The Frederick Center's Frederick HIV Coalition program is helping Frederick County proudly strive towards reaching a "90/90/90" status.

90/90/90, according to UNAIDS (United Nations AIDS) is, "An ambitious treatment target to help end the AIDS epidemic."

The goal is that by the year 2020:

- 90% of all people living with HIV will know their HIV status;
- 90% of all people with diagnosed HIV infection will receive sustained antiretroviral therapy; and
- 90% of all people receiving antiretroviral therapy will have viral suppression.

Alongside the Frederick County Health Department, the Frederick HIV Coalition is working to ensure that all Frederick County residents have access to HIV testing, through various efforts:

- The Frederick County Health Department offers free onsite HIV testing at its offices, and is increasing efforts to offer HIV testing opportunities at community events. The department is also encouraging local doctors to offer HIV testing alongside other regular health checks, such as blood pressure and lung function.
- The Frederick HIV Coalition distributes HIV test kits and related literature, without cost, at many community events, such as Frederick Pride, In the Streets, The Asian American Community Fair, and World AIDS Day.
- The Frederick HIV Coalition also hands out kits on an individual basis upon request. Persons who do not wish to be tested by their doctor or at an event can take a kit home, and then follow up with their doctor at their convenience.

The Frederick Center Board Chair, Kristopher Fair notes, "Support from the Community Foundation of Frederick County has been crucial in our efforts to distribute hundreds of home test kits each year. By offering their financial support,

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we are able to purchase kits and meet the needs of residents wanting to self test at home.”

Finally, Fair states that, “We are grateful to all organizations involved, and for the support and funding of the Community Foundation, in underwriting this program and helping us achieve the 90/90/90 goal we are seeking for Frederick County.”

To obtain a free home HIV test kit, or for more information, please send an email to: hiv@thefrederickcenter.org

For further information on the Internet:

The Frederick Center: <http://www.thefrederickcenter.org/>

The Frederick County Health Department: <http://health.frederickcountymd.gov/>

The Community Foundation of Frederick County: <http://www.cffredco.org/>

UNAIDS 90/90/90: <http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/documents/2014/90-90-90>

The Frederick Center was founded in 2012 with the vision of being the leading organization for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) resources and advocacy in central Maryland. Its mission is to support, educate, link, organize, and provide outreach to the LGBTQ community and its allies.

The Frederick HIV Coalition, a program of The Frederick Center, consists of members from about half a dozen diverse local organizations. The group organizes the local World AIDS Day conference, the Frederick AIDS Walk, and tables at public and private events to distribute HIV test kits and information. Various generous partners fund this program.

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