

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Doing it 'my way' on National HIV Testing Awareness Day

**EAU CLAIRE, Wis.-June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019**— On June 27<sup>th</sup>—National HIV Testing Day—people nationwide are encouraged to learn their HIV status. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that **everyone between the ages of 13 and 64 get tested for HIV at least once as part of routine health care**. People with certain risk factors should get tested more often.

In Wisconsin 7,123 people were living with HIV in 2017. Almost 1 in 8 people living with HIV are unaware they are infected. Based on these estimates, about 1,000 people in Wisconsin are unaware of their HIV status.

Getting tested is the only way to know your HIV status. If you are HIV-positive, you can start getting treated, which can improve your health, prolong your life, and greatly lower your chance of spreading HIV to others. There are so many ways to get tested for HIV—at home, at the doctor's office, with a friend. Find the best way for YOU.



“It’s our role-- as an individual, as community members, and a health care provider-- to create a safe space that helps people feel comfortable talking about HIV and getting tested for HIV,” says Janel Hebert, Public Health Nurse.

The Health Department is partnering with the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) to host an HIV testing event on National HIV Testing Day. See details below.

### **HIV Testing Event**

**Date:** Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, starting at 9pm

**Place:** Scooters, 411 Galloway St, Eau Claire, WI 54703

**Testing is offered at no cost to:**

- People who haven't ever been tested
- People with a history of injection drug use
- Men who have sex with men
- Anyone who has had unprotected sex with multiple partners

We also offer HIV testing at our [Family Planning Clinic](#). To learn more about all services we offer, visit [fpc.ehealthdepartment.org](http://fpc.ehealthdepartment.org) or call 715-839-6988. All services are confidential.

To learn more about National HIV Testing Day, visit <https://npin.cdc.gov/nhtd/>.  
<https://www.cdc.gov/actagainstaids/campaigns/doingit/getmaterials/videos.html>

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