



News

Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders
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For Immediate Release

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BURLINGTON COUNTY TO HOLD “GIRLS NIGHT OUT” PROGRAM MARCH 11

Event Set in Honor of Women’s and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

The Burlington County Freeholders, with the Health Department, will hold a free Girls Night Out program on Monday, March 11. The event will be held in the Enterprise Center at BCC in Mount Laurel at 7:00 PM in honor of Women’s and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

The evening will consist of educational programming, health screenings (including the HIV testing van) a dessert buffet, and a movie, *A Mother’s Prayer*. The movie portrays a young mother diagnosed with HIV who struggles with her fears while trying to find a family to care for her eight year old son.

The purpose of Girls Night Out is to highlight the increasing impact of HIV/AIDS on women and girls and encourage them to take action by knowing their HIV status and understanding their risk.

Funding for this program was made possible in part by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health.

The Rapid HIV test can significantly decrease the spread of HIV as getting the results in 20 minutes means people no longer have to wait one or two weeks and return to the testing site to receive their results.

The Burlington County Health Department urged residents who have never had an HIV test, or who have engaged in high risk behavior since their last test, to attend the program and receive a free

voluntary HIV test. Testing is also available Monday through Friday by appointment at the Health Department.

As of December 2010, there were about 1200 HIV/AIDS cases reported in Burlington County. Also, the New Jersey Department of Health estimates that there were as many as 35,000 people living with HIV/AIDS in New Jersey during that same calendar year.

For more information, visit the website www.HIVtest.org or call the Burlington County Health Department at 609-265-5533.

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