



**FREE H.I.V AND HEP C.
TESTING**

Event of the Year

Collin College

February 24, 2020

Dear TJCSGA Region II Awards Committee,

It is with great pleasure to verify the _____ (SGA) "Free HIV & Hepatitis C Testing" event for the for the TJCSGA Region II Event of the Year Award.

On February 11-13, 2020, the SGA held Free HIV and Hepatitis C testing for the community, faculty, staff, and students. This program was focused on providing a safe, healthy, and welcoming environment to the campus community. Sexual health and knowledge are important to the campus community and offering this event helped provide a clear understanding for those who attended. One powerful opportunity was hosting the event on each of the 3 full-service campuses of _____. This opened the door to have more participants get tested and provide support for all campuses. For the entire three-day period, this event helped over 170 participants know their status and be able to have a better understanding and promotion of sexual health and knowledge. On the last day of the event, the _____ helped 105 people get tested. They actually had more participants, but the testing service ran out of testing supplies. To provide 170 people with these services free of charge is a large blessing and as a high education professional, I was excited by the amount of people who participated. I know that the large turnout was due to the SGA officers and members encouraging people to participate and connecting this event around the national celebration of love, Valentine's Day, was also good planning on their part.

The event attracted a crowd of students, faculty, staff, and community members. We got calls from numerous community members who participated and excited about the opportunity. Although Free HIV testing may not seem to be a unique program, it was one that had not occurred at this scale before a _____. The SGA took this great information from its members and their Health and Human Services committee and brought this event to the students.

This event has room to grow and can be easily implemented at any institution. We hope to move toward a campus culture where the majority of students would participate in this testing and have a better understanding of their sexual health. This program was a pure reflection of the passion and will of our students driving us to deliver programming. I look forward to further developing this program with SGA to better serve our students at _____.

Sincerely,



Stephen C. Rogers

one
drop
is all
it takes.

FREE HIV
&
HEPATITIS C TESTING

Tuesday, Feb 11th
J Building

Wednesday, Feb 12th
Conference center

Thursday, Feb 13th
Atrium

11 AM - 2 PM

HEALTH & HUMAN
SERVICES
COMMITTEE

Brought to you by
Student Government Association

Overview

Approximately 1.1 million are living with HIV and 15% of them are completely unaware of their condition. The CDC recommends that everyone between the ages of 13- 64 get tested at least once in their life in order to be sure of their status, and as a way to set a routine for STI testing. While many people get this check-up done during their yearly checkup, it is important to note that some students in college do not have access to healthcare or they cannot afford to pay out of pocket. A study done by the National Center for Biotechnical Information found that Students were 64% more likely to be tested for H.I.V if the test was provided by their school or near their school. And considering that the CDC stated that the diagnosis of

Hepatitis C, a viral infection of the liver has been rapidly increasing in young adults between 20-24, it was clear that this was a service we needed to get on campus.

This event was spearheaded by the President of The Senate who received inspiration when a very close friend of hers was diagnosed with Hepatitis C, which he had Contracted from an Ex-Girlfriend, who had contracted this viral infection from her mother. Unfortunately, her mother ended up with severe liver damage.

We partnered with Prism Texas, a wonderful organization whose mission statement is "Advancing the Health of North Texas through education, research prevention, and personalized integrated H.I.V care, and they have been serving the North Texas area for more than 30 years. They came to the Campus's and provided Free H.I.V and Hepatitis C testing for the students, faculty, and community members.

Prism North Texas informed us that they typically get around 20 people at most of the testing events they participate in. This time they received 26 testers, we had 34, and together had 103 individuals getting tested. We tested so many people at the event that the organization actually ended up running out of the testing kits they brought with them.



The Inspiration Behind This Event

My name is Siphosami Dongozi and I am the President of The Senate at my College, and I spearheaded the Free H.I.V and Hepatitis C Event, and I got the idea to do this event at such a large scale from my own personal experience. In January of 2019 my Ex-boyfriend who shall not be named here for his own privacy confessed to me that he had tested positive for Hepatitis C, he had gotten the disease from his Ex-girlfriend a year before me. He explained that her mother was a heroin addict when she was younger and she shared needles with people that were infected, unfortunately, the mother did this when she was pregnant. This domino effect of the transmission of this viral infection thankfully ended with my ex-boyfriend who ended up getting tested a full year after he and his Ex-girlfriend had broken up. After everything ended though I kept thinking about how often situations like this happen, where people get tested, and the social stigma surrounding it. I ended up meeting a lovely woman named Shavon who works for Prism North Texas, a nonprofit organization that offers STD testing in low-income communities, I contacted them inquiring to see if they were at all interested in partnering with our organization, and the rest is history.

Amelia Andrews

Posted on Tuesday, February 11

Be aware of your health!

Hello Hello!

Welcome, all to a new year and decade! January was quiet, but this February SGA has been making a lot of noise. Listen, we all know that Valentine's Day is right around the corner, so why not enjoy it with a clear conscience? Our illustrious President of Senate, Siphosami Dongozi, was a monumental component to bringing free healthcare to our fellow students. She contacted the organization called PRISM to bring free HIV and Hepatitis C testing to all. Love is the only thing that should be spread around this February, let's keep it that way.

Come and get tested with us! Even if you know for sure that there is no way you could have contracted it, why not confirm that with a simple one-minute test? Many of our officers got tested on Campus and we all had a great time! Your results are 100% confidential and for you to keep.

IM SO GLAD THAT THIS EVENT HAPPENED BECAUSE IT WAS REALLY THE ONLY WAY I COULD AFFORD IT. MY FAMILY DOESNT HAVE HEALTH INSURENCE AND GETTING TESTED FOR STD'S COSTS A LOT OF MONEY. AND IT CAN BE HARD TO REMEMBER THAT I HAVE TO SAVE UP TO GET THE TESTING DONE. THIS WAY IT WAS CONVENIENT AND FREE. - STUDENT



THE FREE HIV AND HEPATITIS C TESTING EVENT HELPED ME FEEL MORE SECURE ABOUT MY CURRENT HEALTH. BEING IN THE DARK ABOUT SUCH ISSUES CAN MAKE YOU SECOND GUESS YOURSELF AND TAKING THE TEST AFFIRMED THAT I WAS NOT ONLY STD FREE, BUT ALSO GAVE ME KNOWLEDGE ON HOW TO AVOID THE POSSIBILITY OF CONTRACTING STD'S! I AM EXTREMELY THANKFUL TO THE ORGANIZERS OF THE EVENT, THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING OVER 100 FREE SCREENINGS, RETURNING CONFIDENCE AND ELIMINATING SEXUAL INSECURITIES FOR THOSE TESTED. - STUDENT





Client Results Form

Client ID: _____

Test Date: 2/11/20

Tested by: Vinnyetta

RESULT: Negative Indeterminate Preliminary Positive

We recommend retesting for HIV in: 3 months 6 months 12 months

HIV is spread through 4 bodily fluids: **blood, semen (cum), vaginal fluids, and breast milk**. To lower your risk of getting HIV, don't let another person's fluids get inside your body.

Follow these rules to lower your risks for HIV infection:

- The surest way is to not have anal, oral or vaginal sex.
- If you do have sex, always use a latex or polyurethane (non-latex) condom.
- Never reuse a condom. Open and use a new one for every sex act.
- Never share needles for drug use, tattooing, or body piercing.
- Never share items that could become contaminated with blood (razors, toothbrushes, nail clippers, ect.)

For more information about HIV/AIDS including general information and testing,

Please call **972-807-7370**

Or visit our website at www.prismhealthntx.org

Risk Reduction Step:

Referral 1:

Organization Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone Number: _____

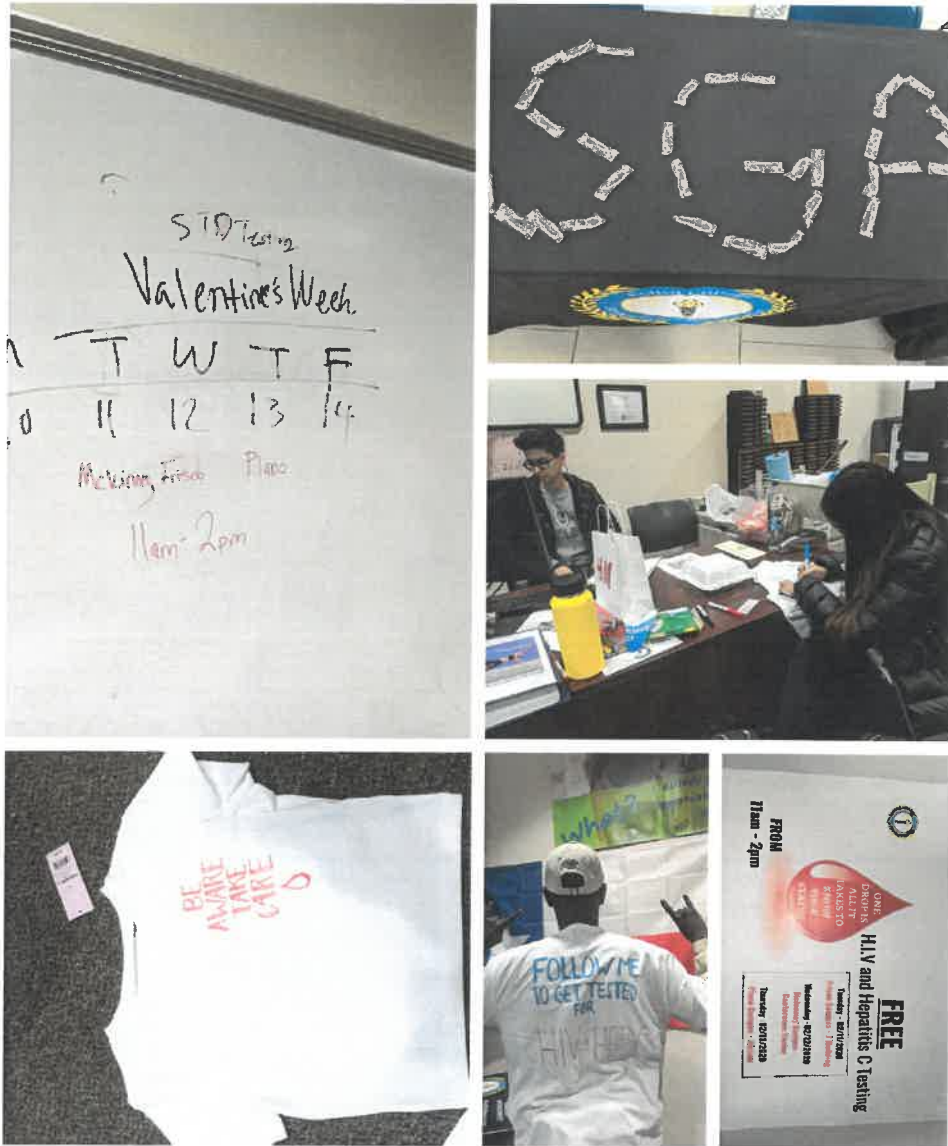
Referral 2:

Organization Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone Number: _____

The process before the event started, we decided to use fabric markers on white shirts and to write the words "Follow me to get tested for H.I.V and Hep C. on the back. We decorated the front of each shirt with a slogan of the persons choosing, some examples include "Hate the disease, not the dieased, Be aware take care, Better to protect rather than regret, Avoid the Scare, Be Aware".



Behind The Scenes

The testing events happened across three main campuses and we had over 170 individuals getting tested, the most the organization had ever done in their 15 year history! The campus in particular had so many people that the testers ran out of kits to use.



The Event Taking Place



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