



Planned Parenthood of Greater Ohio

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PLANNED PARENTHOOD MARKS NATIONAL BLACK HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY

Columbus, Ohio—Planned Parenthood of Greater Ohio today released the following statement from President and CEO Stephanie Kight in recognition of National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

“National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is an opportunity to raise awareness about this pandemic and unite in the fight against HIV in the African-American community. There has been some progress, but there is still much work to be done. Although African Americans represent only 12 percent of the population in Ohio, in 2011 African Americans were diagnosed with HIV at a rate of 34.9 per 100,000—more than twice the rate of Hispanic/Latino populations and more than seven times the rate of Whites—according to [data from the Ohio Department of Health](#).

“As a leading sexual and reproductive health care provider and advocate in Ohio, Planned Parenthood of Greater Ohio knows firsthand why it is critical that women and men in the African-American community have access to a wide range of preventive health care services, like testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections. Under the Affordable Care Act, millions more people will be eligible for health insurance and HIV Care. Planned Parenthood health centers in Ohio and across the country look forward to helping more African Americans access this critical preventive care in our nation’s fight against HIV/AIDS.”

Background

- Planned Parenthood is among the nation’s leading providers of HIV screening. One in three women who receive an HIV test is screened at a women’s health center like Planned Parenthood.
- In 2011, Planned Parenthood of Greater Ohio conducted 8,165 HIV tests. Nationally in 2011, Planned Parenthood health centers conducted 680,000 HIV tests, a 16 percent increase from 2010.
- According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, there are approximately 1.1 million people living with HIV/AIDS in the United States, including more than 500,000 African Americans. African Americans account for almost half of all HIV infections in this country and are the racial/ethnic demographic group most affected by HIV.

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[Planned Parenthood of Greater Ohio](http://www.ppgoh.org) has 21 health center locations and has served Ohioans with quality health services for 85 years. The affiliate offers a full range of reproductive health care services including life-saving cancer screenings, well woman exams, birth control, STI testing and treatment, comprehensive sexuality education, and more. More than 60 percent of the patients who rely on Planned Parenthood of Greater Ohio are uninsured or underinsured. Learn more at <http://www.ppgoh.org>.