DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

SAN BERNARDINO CLINIC OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION
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April is STD Awareness Month
"GET TESTED"

The County of San Bernardino reported more than 13,000 new cases of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in 2013. According to the California Department of Public Health, STD Control Branch most cases occur in teens and young adults aged 25 and under. Chlamydia and gonorrhea can cause infertility in women, and these and other STDs can increase HIV transmission in both men and women. The San Bernardino County Department of Public Health, Clinic Operations wants to encourage the community to "Get Tested."

"STDs pose a serious public health threat to County residents, particularly adolescents and young adults," said Meaghan Ellis, PsyD, MSN, PHN, Chief, Community Health Services and Health Center Director of San Bernardino County Department of Public Health. "Many STDs often have no signs or symptoms, but can be effectively treated once diagnosed."

The Department's Clinic Operations Section will promote STD Awareness Month this year through the "Have We Met?" campaign using billboards, bus tails and side panels, and through clinic outreach events. Clients who get tested at the Public Health Clinics or the HIV Mobile Testing Unit (MTU) will receive incentives during the month of April. The goal of the campaign is to encourage people to:

- Get Tested,
- Start treatment right away if you test positive for an STD, and
- Learn how to be STD free.

For more information or to Get Tested, contact the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Health Clinic Operations at **1-800-722-4777**. HIV testing is free at the MTU. Testing fees may apply at the Public Health Clinics. If you do not have health coverage, assistance is available to apply for Medi-Cal.

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