



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Test 1 Million Ohio Press Conference

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Nearly half of the estimated 1.2 million Americans living with HIV/AIDS are Black. 54% of all new HIV infections are among Black Americans. 43% of the new cases among men, 65% of the new cases among infants, 67% of the new cases among women, and 70% of the new cases among teens in the U.S. are Black. It is because of these alarming statistics, we will be hosting the Test 1 Million Ohio Press Conference in Columbus, Ohio. The Test 1 Million Ohio Press Conference is apart of the Black AIDS Institute’s mobilization effort. The Black AIDS Institute’s “Test 1 Million” Campaign is a call-to-action for 1 million Black Americans to get screened for HIV by June 27, 2010. The goals of the Campaign are:

- Cut HIV rates in Black America by 50%
- Increase the number of Black Americans who know their status by 50%
- Increase the number of Black Americans in appropriate early care/treatment by 50%
- Reduce HIV/AIDS stigma in Black America by 50%

Phill Wilson, Founder and Executive Director of the Black AIDS Institute, will be coming to the state capitol to participate in the Test 1 Million Ohio Press Conference! Along with Mr. Wilson, Senator Eric H. Kearney, Representative Sandra Williams, and members of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus will be present at the Press Conference.

At the Press Conference, each representative to take 2-3 minutes talking about the importance to re-awaken the concern for HIV and the fight against lethargy in the African American community. After each statement, the respective participant will sign the call to action in front of the press. This Press Conference will clearly disclose Ohio’s approach to end the AIDS epidemic to a variety of media outlets.

Time: 12:00p – 1:00p

Location: Ohio Commission on Minority Health

Date: June 9th, 2009

“AIDS in America today is a Black disease. Nobody wants to talk about that, and nobody wants to own that. That silence is killing us,” said Phill Wilson. “That’s why we’re calling for 1 million Black Americans to get tested for HIV in the next year...”

This event is part of a mass black response to the AIDS epidemic sponsored by the aforementioned organizations in cooperation with the Black AIDS Institute.

For a detailed listing of events, testing dates, and locations, please visit our website at www.4charis.com or call Camisha Chambers at 513-236-3745.