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APRIL IS SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE MONTH
Health department encourages all to learn more about STDs

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL—The Palm Beach County Health Department reported 3346 Sexually Transmitted Disease cases in 2006. April is Sexually Transmitted Disease Awareness Month and all are reminded that STDs exist in the county.

If left untreated STDs can cause infertility, pelvic inflammatory disease, neurological damage and can be passed on during pregnancy. “These diseases are not only preventable they are also treatable. I urge everyone to recognize the symptoms of STDs and consult with their medical provider,” said Health Department Director, Jean M. Malecki, MD.

Chlamydia and Gonorrhea continue to have the highest incidence of infection in the county. Chlamydia accounted for 2229 cases and Gonorrhea had 1047 reported in 2006. Both showed a slight increase (200) over the previous year. Syphilis had a slight downturn from 141 cases in 2005 to 97 in 2006.

The Health Department is dedicated to providing educational materials, counseling and testing for STDs. During STD Awareness Month and throughout the year persons can call the statewide hotline at 800-227-8922, the health department at 561-804-7900 or visit the website at www.pbchd.com.



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