



Charlie Crist  
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H..  
State Surgeon General

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 1, 2009

NEWS MEDIA ONLY: TIM O'CONNOR  
561-671-4013 FAX 837-5197

### **21<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY**

**PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL**—It has been 21 years since the World Health Organization and the United Nations first declared December 1 as World AIDS Day. During that time much has been done to create awareness, save lives and curtail the spread of the disease. Locally the battle continues.

“There have truly been some incredible advances in the treatment of HIV and AIDS, but there is still much work to be done,” said Palm Beach County Health Department Director Alina Alonso, M.D. “And while the number of new AIDS cases has declined over the last year, it’s important to remember the fight against the disease is management and prevention.”

Currently, less than 1% of the People living with AIDS or HIV are under the age of five. Since January 2009 270 new AIDS infections were diagnosed, a 36% decrease over 2008 and 247 HIV Cases were diagnosed, a 9% decrease over 2008. The cumulative total of people living with HIV/AIDS in the county is now 10,375 and it is estimated that number would be 20% greater if more people were tested.

A number of activities and testing sites are planned for the days leading up to and after World AIDS Day. These include:

December 1  
Comprehensive AIDS Program of Palm Beach County, Inc.  
Second Annual People With Voices Talent Show  
to raise HIV/AIDS Awareness  
Tuesday, December 1, 2009 at 5:30 P.M.  
Florida Atlantic University Grand Palm Room  
Student Union 1st Floor  
777 Glades Road  
Boca Raton

December 1- Lights On in the Community  
Residents are asked to leave your front and back porch lights On from 6:00 AM to 6:00 P.M. and drive with your vehicle Headlights On.

December 1 – World AIDS Day Luncheon  
Reflection on the Glades communities, Organizations and Health Department achievements this year and goals for next year.

December 2 – Family Education Day  
Encouraging and teaching family members to understand factors that will enable them to make behavioral changes. Literature will be provided to members of the community by request from the following agencies:



PBCHD Director Alina Alonso, M.D.  
Post office Box 29 / 800 Clematis Street, West Palm Beach, FL 33402  
[www.pbchd.com](http://www.pbchd.com)



Charlie Crist  
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H..  
State Surgeon General

---

Saint John First Baptist Church  
600 Southwest 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Belle Glade  
12:00 Noon to 2:00 P.M.  
Tickets: \$15.00

C. L Brumback Health Center  
38754 State Road 80  
Belle Glade  
12:00 Noon to 1:00 P.M.

Comprehensive AIDS Program  
555 S.W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Belle Glade  
10:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon

Glades Health Initiative  
136 South Main Street, Belle Glade  
5:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.

December 3 – Testing and Counseling Day  
Take a step towards prevention.

C. L Brumback Health Center  
38754 State Road 80, Belle Glade

Comprehensive AIDS Program  
555 S.W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Belle Glade

Glades Health Initiative  
136 South Main Street, Belle Glade

December 3 - Candle Light Ceremony  
Belle Glade  
Candlelight AIDS walk will begin at 5:30 P.M.  
in front of the City Hall(water department) at  
110 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd. West. The  
walk will travel to Dolly Hand Cultural Art  
Center at 1977 College Drive, Belle Glade for  
ceremony.  
(Please bring flash Lights)



PBCHD Director Alina Alonso, M.D.  
Post office Box 29 / 800 Clematis Street, West Palm Beach, FL 33402  
[www.pbchd.com](http://www.pbchd.com)



Charlie Crist  
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H..  
State Surgeon General

---

December 3, Day of Recognition and Support Show appreciation to persons who have served as caregivers to HIV/AIDS Patients.  
Please Drive with your Lights on

December 4 – Men and boys Education Day Encouraging and teaching men/boys to understand factors that will enable them to make behavioral changes. Literature will be provided to members of the community by request from the following agencies:

C. L Brumback Health Center  
38754 State Road 80, Belle Glade  
12:00 noon to 1:00 pm

Comprehensive AIDS Program  
555 S.W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Belle Glade  
10:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon

Glades Health Initiative  
136 South Main Street, Belle Glade  
5:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

December 4- Community Outreach Day  
All agencies in the Glades will do outreach as a collective union.

C.L Brumback Health Center  
38754 State Road 80 Belle Glade  
9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M  
(Meeting Location before Outreach)

December 6 - Pahokee Community Health Fair  
Free Food, Music, Entertainment and Health Screening

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park  
East 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Pahokee  
4:00 P.M. to 7 P.M.

December 11 - Block Party  
A night of fun filled with activities, food, music and education.

Edward Sport Bar  
Avenue B Place and Fifth Street, Belle Glade  
6:00 P.M. to 10: 00 P.M.

Weed and Seed (Oral Quick Testing)  
224 SW 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Belle Glade  
6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

December 12 - South Bay Community Health Fair  
Free Food, Music, Entertainment and Health Screening

Tanner Park  
791 NW 1st Street, South Bay  
4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

###



PBCHD Director Alina Alonso, M.D.  
Post office Box 29 / 800 Clematis Street, West Palm Beach, FL 33402  
[www.pbchd.com](http://www.pbchd.com)