



STAY TUNED FOR OUR UPCOMING
PODCAST! In our May 2018 issue!

ABOUT HAPPY

HIV Awareness Promoting Prevention for You (HAPPY) is a service to prevent and reduce the impact of HIV stigma and discrimination. HAPPY service started July 1st of 2016. It is a service of Access to Wholistic and Productive Living Institute, Inc. located at 3611 43rd Ave., Colmar Manor MD 20722.



HAPPY's service goal is to prevent HIV infection and prevent the transmission of HIV among high risk individuals.

We aim to prevent the incidence of HIV infection through health education, screening, and contact notification.

HAPPY Offers:

- Confidential counseling
- Uplifting and open communication
- One-on-one sessions
- Emotional support
- A safe and non-judgmental environment
- Flexible hours

KNOW THE FACTS!

10 Key Points to Know About HIV/AIDS

- HIV is the virus that causes HIV infection. AIDS is the most advanced stage of HIV infection.
- HIV is spread through contact with the blood, semen, pre-seminal fluid, rectal fluids, vaginal fluids, or breast milk of a person with HIV. In the United States, HIV is spread mainly by having anal or vaginal sex or sharing drug injection equipment with a person who has HIV.
- HIV tests are reliable.
- Antiretroviral therapy (ART) is the use of HIV medicines to treat HIV infection. People on ART take a combination of HIV medicines every day.
- ART can't cure HIV infection, but it can help people with HIV live longer, healthier lives. HIV medicines can also reduce the risk of transmission of HIV.
- You cannot know if your partner has HIV unless he or she is tested.
- You or your partner need to wear a condom during sex, even if you both are HIV positive
- Women can give HIV to men.
- Lesbians can contract HIV.
- HIV is not spread by mosquitoes, sweat, tears, pools, or casual contact.



Get Educated...Get Tested...Get involved...Get Treated!

UPCOMING EVENTS



Are you looking for ways to stay engaged and informed about HIV & AIDS? Below is a listing of important dates to remember. [Click here](#) to find out what you can do in your community.

April 10th – National Youth HIV & AIDS Awareness Day #NYHAAD

April 18th – National Transgender HIV Testing Day #TransHIV

May 18th – HIV Vaccine Awareness Day #HVAD

May 19th – National Asian & Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day #APIMay19

June 27th – National HIV Testing Day #HIVTestingDay

September 18th – National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day #NHAAAD

September 27th – National Gay Men's HIV/AIDS Awareness Day #NGMHAAD

October 15th – National Latinx AIDS Awareness Day #NLAAD

SUPPORT GROUPS:

Wednesday:

Join our HAPPY [Online Chat Room](#) to earn gift cards and more! *member must post for a month or more to earn incentives*

COMMUNITY



New Program for Teens!

Today teens are faced with incredible pressures to be sexually active. Being aware of these challenges and activity, Access has chosen to implement the Personal Responsibility Education program. This comprehensive intervention program designed to improve awareness and knowledge about puberty, HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STI's) and pregnancy prevention.

The following topics will be addressed:

- Dating Responsibilities and Respect
- Effective and Assertive Communication
- Male and Female Reproductive Systems
- Puberty and Adolescent Health
- Making Abstinence Work for me
- The Consequences of Sex: HIV/AIDS and STIs
- The Consequences of Sex: Pregnancy
- Birth control

Access does not discriminate in providing services based on race, religion, ethnicity, gender, gender identification or preference. Participants will take intake and exit survey, but youth/parents may opt out and still participate in the program. All participants must have parental/guardian consent prior to participating in the PHAT-C Program.

Locations:

Northwestern HS
Bladensburg HS
Fairmount HS
Hearts and Homes for Youth

RESOURCE CENTER

We are always collecting new resources for HAPPY! Please contact [Ma'Sheka Thomas](#) if there are resources you would like to see that are not listed in our directory. [Download our HAPPY Resource Directory now.](#)

