# PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTION



# **Partners for Testing**

### A Partnership is Formed

Since March of 2016, the Scott County Health Department has partnered with the Center for Alcohol & Drug Services (CADS) to offer HIV and hepatitis C counseling, testing and referral services along with hepatitis A and B vaccinations to clients in treatment for substance abuse. CADS clients fill out a risk assessment form and receive risk-reduction counseling from SCHD staff, which provides an opportunity for the client to ask questions and discuss strategies and resources for the prevention of HIV, viral hepatitis, and other sexually transmitted diseases.

## **Testing**

The initial tests used at CADS for HIV and hepatitis C are "rapid antibody tests", conducted using a small sample taken from the finger, similar to blood sugar tests used by people managing diabetes. The tests are highly sensitive and offer preliminary results in just 20 minutes. If a rapid antibody test is positive, this indicates the presence of antibodies to HIV or hepatitis C and further testing is done on a venous blood sample to confirm the infection. Confirmatory results are available within a week, and clients with a confirmed infection are referred to medical care and other appropriate support services.

If you think your clients could benefit from this testing, please contact Heath Johnson, Disease Prevention Specialist at the Scott County Health Department. He can be reached by phone at (563)326-8245 or by email at <a href="mailto:heath.johnson@scottcountyjowa.com">heath.johnson@scottcountyjowa.com</a>.



#### **OUR MISSION:**

The Scott County
Health Department
promotes, protects,
and preserves health
through leadership,
services, education,
and partnerships.

#### **OUR VISION:**

Scott County—
A safe and healthy community.



## SPECIAL EVENTS

- Scott County Board of Health Meeting,
   Scott County Administrative Center,
   1st Floor Boardroom, 12:00 PM,
   Thursday, December 21, 2017
- Scott County Health Department will be closed Monday, December 25th and Tuesday, December 26th in observance of the Christmas holiday.



# World AIDS Day—December 1, 2017

Increasing Impact through Transparency, Accountability, and Partnerships

Friday, December 1 marks the annual World AIDS Day event, highlighting the successes of the worldwide effort to combat HIV and AIDS. While there are currently 1.1 million Americans living with HIV, new HIV infections have declined by 18% from 2008 to 2014. World AIDS Day also highlights the importance of continuing to support efforts to prevent HIV and provide support for those living with HIV/AIDS.

#### **Scott County World AIDS Day Event**

SCHD is partnering with The Project of the Quad Cities (TPQC) and St. Ambrose University (SAU) to host a World AIDS Day Outreach & Testing Event on December 1 at the SAU Student Wellness/Fitness Center. The event will encourage individuals to know their HIV status by offering free HIV testing, HIV/STD education and chlamydia and gonorrhea urine screenings (provided by TPQC).

Source: https://www.hiv.gov/hiv-basics/overview/data-and-trends/statistics

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