

In 2006, Texas reported the fourth highest number of AIDS cases in the country, with nearly 3,000 Texans, not to mention their family and friends, living with the pain and problems that come with HIV/AIDS.

With limited access to prevention and care, cultural and language barriers, and other difficulties to overcome, minorities are hit especially hard by HIV/AIDS. In 2006, Hispanics represented 15% of the population, but they accounted for 18% of new HIV infections.

National Latino AIDS Awareness Day is a nationwide event encouraging Latinos to protect their lives and the lives of those they love by getting tested and learning about HIV/AIDS. I encourage San Antonio's community to recognize the critical role that testing and education play in stemming the spread of this disease.

If you want to learn more about prevention or receive an HIV test, please join HOPE ACTION CARE at the [Good Samaritan Community Services Center](#) this week for two days of festivities. Along with HIV testing and education, there will be refreshments, door prizes, and musical entertainment from Mujeres Unidas on October 15th and Grupo Cielo on the 18th. These are events where the whole family can learn about and support a noble cause while having a great time.

Where:

Good Samaritan Community Services Center  
1600 Saltillo St.  
(210) 434-5531 ext.2043

When:

Wednesday, October 15, 2008 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm  
Saturday, October 18, 2008 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm

Maybe I'll see you there!