

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency California Department of Public Health



March 21, 2022

Dear Colleague,

Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Awareness Week will be observed **April 10-16**, **2022**. The annual observance is an opportunity to bring a focus to STD prevention during a continued global pandemic when individuals may access fewer sexual and other health care services. Chlamydia, gonorrhea, adult syphilis, and congenital syphilis are <u>increasing in all regions of the state</u>, among males and females, and continue to be an important public health concern throughout California. It is important to ensure all communities understand the local STD testing and treatment resources that are available to them and how to access them. Please see the following resources to use when planning local STD Awareness Week campaigns.

- <u>STD Awareness Week webpage</u> (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) has free campaign resources, including ready-to-use social media spots and graphics. Campaigns to choose from are <u>Get Yourself Tested (GYT)</u>, <u>Talk. Test. Treat.</u>, <u>Prepare Before You're There</u>.
- <u>STD Awareness Campaign Resources webpage</u> (California Department of Public Health) includes additional California-based campaigns and related resources.
- Local Capacity Building Webinars with strategies for building campaigns:
 - Raising Sexual Health Awareness During a Global Pandemic (February 2021). Recording password: LCB2021Feb
 - Raising Sexual Health Awareness Across California (February 2020).
 Recording password: LCB2020Feb

If you have questions or are interested in learning more about what is available to support your outreach for STD prevention and education, please contact the STD Health Education inbox at STDHealthEd@cdph.ca.gov. Data and additional California-specific information and resources can be found at std.ca.gov.

Thank you for all you do to protect the sexual health of Californians.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Jacobson, MD

Chief, STD Control Branch, California Department of Public Health Office: 510-620-3178 | Email: Kathleen.Jacobson@cdph.ca.gov

