Evangelical Lutheran Church in America God's work. Our hands.

National HIV Testing Day

Each year, June 27 marks National HIV Testing Day. In the United States, approximately 1.1 million people are living with HIV, of which an estimated 1 in 7 people do not know their HIV status. This day is set aside to highlight the importance of testing as part of the larger response to HIV.

On this day, we specifically remember our calling, as set forward in the ELCA Strategy on HIV and AIDS. We are called to a strong and faithful response, including through supporting access to HIV testing.

You can learn more about testing resources in your area by visiting **gettested.cdc.gov**.

In addition to participating in National Testing Day, you can participate throughout the year:

- **ADVOCATE**: Stay connected to ELCA Advocacy's updates and ask your elected officials to support policies that advance access to testing; promote effective prevention, treatment and care; eliminate stigma; and address systemic inequity.
- **LEARN:** Take time to learn more about HIV testing and invite your congregation to participate in educational activities.
- **SERVE:** Invite your congregation to partner with an agency that has testing events on this day or throughout the year.
- **PRAY:** Join in prayer, remembering National HIV Testing Day.
- **DONATE**: Give online at <u>ELCA.org/HIV</u>, by calling 800-638-3522 or by mailing your gift to ELCA World Hunger, ELCA Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009. Please note "HIV and AIDS" on the memo line of your check.

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1 CDC, 2019