

GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIPATTAMENTON SALUT PUPBLEKO YAN SETBISION SUSIAT



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April is National STD Awareness Month

The Department of Public Health and Social Services is pleased to announce that April is National STD Awareness Month. This annual observance is an opportunity for individuals and healthcare providers to raise public awareness about the impact of sexually transmitted diseases (STD) and the importance of preventing, testing, and treating STDs.

DPHSS encourages everyone to *Know the Facts* and *Get Yourself Tested (GYT)*. Although STDs affects everyone, nearly *half* of the 20 million STD infections that occur each year in the U.S. are among young people 15 to 24 years of age. In 2013, Guam's Chlamydia rate was among the highest in the nation at 586 per 100,000 population (the U.S. total rate was 447 per 100,000 population) with the 15 to 24 age group also being highly impacted.

It is important to understand that all STDs are treatable and most are curable. If not treated, STDs may lead to serious health problems. Knowing the facts about STDs and getting tested are important to protect your health. The sooner you know your status by getting tested the better you can protect your health and the health of your partner.

For more information about National STD Awareness Month or about STD testing services on Guam, contact Mr. Vince J. Aguon at 735-7166 or visit the Prutehi Hao website at www.prutehiahao.guam.gov.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. Gillan".

JAMES W. GILLAN
Director