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8th National Asian and Pacific Islander (API) HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

The Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS), STD/HIV Program is pleased to announce the 8th National Asian and Pacific Islander (API) HIV/AIDS Awareness Day on May 19, 2012, in collaboration with the Banyan Tree Project. The Banyan Tree Project is a national Campaign to end the silence and shame surrounding HIV/AIDS in Asian and Pacific Islander communities. This year's theme is "Saving face can't make you safe. Talk about HIV- for me, for you, for everyone". The DPHSS encourages all community leaders, health providers and policymakers to raise awareness about the impact of HIV/AIDS-related stigma and address the lack of HIV prevention information targeting Asian and Pacific Islanders. In observance of the National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, the DPHSS announces the following events:

- Wednesday, May 16, 2012, free STD/HIV testing for students attending the University of Guam at the UOG Student Health Services Office from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Friday, May 18, 2012, the DPHSS STD/HIV Program will launch *The Banyan Tree Project Taking Root Stories* (www.banyantreeproject.org/takingroot.php) 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon at the Public Health Incident Command Center (PHICC), DPHSS Mangilao Facility.
- Saturday, May 19, 2012, the DPHSS Bureau of Family Health and Nursing Services is featuring "Sexual Assault and Risk of HIV infection" as a topic at the Women's Health Conference at the Hotel Nikko. Sponsors include WestCare, Guam Office of Minority Health and Live Healthy Guam.
- Saturday, May 19, 2012, the Guam Alternate Lifestyle Association (GALA) is organizing a wave event followed by a reception to take place at the GALA Office in Upper Tumon. (Time: To be announced).

For additional information, contact the STD/HIV Program at 735-3604/7166/7137/7149/7311 or visit: www.prutehihao.org.

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