



NEWS

RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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23rd Annual Illinois HIV/STD Conference –

“Mission Possible: Justice, Equality, Action”

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), in conjunction with the Illinois Public Health Association, will open the 23rd Annual HIV/STD Conference on Wed., Oct. 29 - 30, 2014 in Springfield. This event aims to strengthen efforts to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS and STDs. A preconference will be held today, Oct. 28, from 10 am – 4:30 pm.

Illinois ranks 7th in the nation in the estimated number of AIDS cases, 4th for the number of reported primary and secondary syphilis cases, 10th for reported gonorrhea cases and 9th for Chlamydia cases.

Hundreds of health care providers, practitioners, educators and advocates statewide are expected to attend this event to share information and develop comprehensive strategies to further prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and STDs.

WHO: Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois Public Health Association

WHEN: Oct. 29 - 30, 2014

8:30 a.m. Welcome: **David Culp**, Ph.D., Deputy Director for IDPH Office of Health Protection

8:45 a.m. Keynote Presentation: **David Purcell**, J.D., Ph.D., Deputy Director for Behavioral and Social Science, Div. of HIV/AIDS Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and **Antigone Dempsey**, Med, Director, Div. of Policy and Data, Health Resources and Services Administration

WHERE: Springfield Hilton Hotel, Grand Ballroom
700 E. Adams St.
Springfield, IL 62701

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IDPH continues to implement its [Five Year Strategy 2014-2018](#) to maximize IDPH's effectiveness, influence and value for promoting wellness, health equity, safety and improved health outcomes. Strategic plan priorities include developing and expanding partnerships; improving data utilization; reducing health disparities; improving regulatory compliance; and branding, marketing and communicating IDPH's value.

http://www.idph.state.il.us/about/StrategicPlan_Final_2014-2018.pdf.