

HIV AWARENESS WEEK AND WORLD AIDS DAY 2026

Information Pack & EOI Form



World AIDS Day
1 December 2026

HIV Awareness Week and World AIDS Day

HIV Awareness Week commencing on 25th November, and World AIDS Day, commemorated annually on 1st December, provide an opportunity to increase awareness, educate community, combat prejudice and show support for people living with HIV.

Red Ribbon Grants Program

The South Eastern Sydney Local Health District (SESLHD) Red Ribbon Grants Program offers small grants of up to **\$500** to local organisations/ groups to run activities around HIV Awareness Week and World AIDS Day.

Objectives

- To increase community conversations and awareness about HIV,
- To reduce stigma and discrimination, and
- To remember those who have passed away from HIV/AIDS related illnesses.

Who is eligible to apply?

- ✓ Applicants must be an organisation or group based in or operating within SESLHD. For a map, go to <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/lhd/Pages/seslhd.aspx>.
- ✓ The activity must take place within SESLHD areas.

RED RIBBON GRANTS - KEY DATES

Grant Opening Date	21 September (Monday)
Grant Application Due Date	16 October (Friday)
Grant Outcome Announced	22 October (Thursday)
HIV Awareness Week	25 November (Wednesday) – 1 December (Tuesday)
World AIDS Day	1 December (Tuesday)

Key Messages

Prevention

- Condoms and sterile injecting equipment prevent HIV transmission.
- Pre-exposure prophylaxis, or PrEP, is a medicine that helps prevent getting HIV through sexual activity. Free PrEP is available to people who do not have Medicare at Sexual Health Centres and the Kirketon Road Centre.
- Post-exposure prophylaxis, or PEP, is a short course of medicine taken as soon as possible, and within 72 hours, after a possible HIV exposure to help prevent getting HIV.
- People living with HIV who take effective treatment can suppress their viral load and have no risk of passing on HIV to a sexual partner. This is called “Treatment as Prevention” (TasP) or Undetectable Viral Load (U=U, or undetectable=untransmissible).

Testing

- The [SESLHD Blood Borne Virus Testing Policy](#) encourages to normalise HIV testing and has specific recommendations for drug and alcohol services, mental health services, and other settings.
- Testing for HIV can be part of your regular health checks. Ask your GP.
- Free HIV self-testing is available through MyTest vending machines near you. Find machine locations on the [MyTest](#) website.

Treatment and care

- People living with HIV can get treatment that allows them to live a healthy, long life.
- Early treatment uptake for people newly diagnosed with HIV is associated with improved health outcomes.

Stigma

Stigma and discrimination remains a significant issue with serious impacts for people living with HIV and is a barrier for people to access health services for prevention, testing and treatment of HIV.

Commemoration

Remember people who have died of AIDS related illnesses or other conditions associated with HIV.

Activities you can do

The suggested activities are as follows:

- ✓ An education event for staff and/or clients about HIV. You may like to include these [stigma and discrimination resources from ASHM](#).
- ✓ A health promotion event targeting people at high risk of HIV – you might include fun activities including fake tattooing.
- ✓ Host a morning tea with spinning wheel quizzes and offer prizes.
- ✓ Positive speakers to share their lived experience with staff or clients of your service. You can book a speaker on the [Positive Life NSW](#) website.
- ✓ A staff competition in your workplace. We can support the quizzes package that you can use.
- ✓ Offer testing according to the [SESLHD Blood Borne Virus Testing Policy](#). You can use the grant to provide incentives for testing.
- ✓ Use social media to start a conversation and promote the events on your platforms.

If you have other ideas that contribute to achieve the grant's objectives, please reach out to discuss. **We welcome all ideas.**

Available Resources

As part of the grant application, you can request **free resources**. These include:

- BBV Testing Policy pens for internal staff activities to promote the policy.
- World AIDS Day merchandise will be available. Specific items are to be confirmed and could include bags, pens, and red ribbon badges.
- We have quizzes for staff and a spinning wheel that you may like to use. These are excellent tools to engage with staff, clients and community.

Please note that resources are subject to demand and stock levels, we will take into consideration your requested amount and the size of your event.

Funds can be used for:

- Catering
- Lived experience speakers
- Vouchers (\$20 or \$50) can be used as prizes for selected winners of quiz competitions, spinning wheel quizzes, etc.

NB: Vouchers can make up a limited amount of your grant. Talk to us to work out the best way to use vouchers in your grant.

Support

When you are ready to submit your application, please send it to:

- Elena Thant Mon Cho, elena.thantmoncho@health.nsw.gov.au, and
- Daniel Balogun, daniel.balogun@health.nsw.gov.au

If you would like to discuss your application or need support, do not hesitate to contact us.

Expression of Interest:

SESLHD Red Ribbon Grants Program 2026

Please forward your completed EOI form by 16 October (Friday) to Elena Thant Mon Cho elena.thantmoncho@health.nsw.gov.au and Daniel Balogun daniel.balogun@health.nsw.gov.au

Name of organisation:		
Contact Person:		
Address:		
Email:		
Telephone:		
Select Payment Option:	Cost Centre Transfer <i>(For SESLHD services only)</i> Confirm Cost Centre Number: -----	Invoice Please address the invoice to: <i>Sexual Health and Blood Borne Virus Services, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District</i>
Have you received approval from your manager for the proposed event?	Yes	No

Project Details

Project Name:		
Date: [DD/MM/YYYY]		
Time: [00:00 am/pm]	From:	To:
Location:		
Key Messages you want to deliver:		

Activity Description:		
Target Audience:		
Free Resources Requested: Estimated quantity	Resources	Quantity
	1. BBV Testing Policy pens (SESLHD staff only)	
	2. World AIDS Day merchandise	
	3. Spinning wheel	
	4. Printed information resources (e.g., cards, flyers, etc)	
Evaluation How will you know that your project has reached its intended objectives?		

Please provide a budget breakdown, including requested Vouchers. Specify any in kind items and donations.



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