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MEDIA RELEASE

COTTONWOOD, Arizona (November 25, 2013) – The City of Cottonwood is supporting HIV/AIDS Awareness through participation in the Aunt Rita’s Foundation campaign.

To raise awareness of the need for HIV/AIDS education and outreach, Aunt Rita’s Foundation is launching a statewide awareness campaign across Arizona. A banner will hang at different locations throughout the state, designed to remind all Arizonans that HIV/AIDS is still one of the largest epidemics in global history. The only way to stop this epidemic is to “know your status” and get tested.

A 20x40 foot banner will be unveiled at a press conference, with Phoenix Mayor Stanton, in the atrium of Phoenix’s City Hall at 200 W Washington Street, Phoenix, at 11:00 am on Monday, November 25th.

Reaching out to other communities, Mayor Stanton’s office also contacted all the Mayors in Arizona, and Mayor Diane Joens responded that Cottonwood would like to participate. Cottonwood City Hall, at 827 N Main Street, is one of the many civic locations where a smaller banner will be displayed.

“I am proud the City of Cottonwood has chosen to be a part of the Aunt Rita’s Banner Campaign. This is a great opportunity for educating our community, to unite in the fight against HIV and to show support for those living with, and those who have lost love ones due to HIV/AIDS.”

The banner will be displayed at City Hall from Monday, November 25th through Sunday, December 1st, which is World AIDS Day.

“This campaign is a megaphone for the message that Aunt Rita’s spreads every day,” said Aunt Rita’s Foundation Executive Director Kit Kloeckl. “The World Health Organization’s 2013 theme for World AIDS Day is “Getting to Zero: Zero new HIV infections. Zero discrimination. Zero AIDS-related deaths.” We hope that these banners are a bold statement to all that live with HIV/AIDS that there is hope in education and to the Arizona community that HIV is still an epidemic and everyone needs to know their status and get tested. We created HIVAZ.ORG to provide Arizonans with a central database for testing and resources.”

For more information, visit www.auntritas.org or call (602) 882-8675.

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