

*Proclamation Recognizing April 2026 as
Sexually Transmitted Infections Awareness Month*

Whereas Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Awareness Month is observed in April, with STI Awareness Week being observed April 12-18. These two occurrences have become fixtures for promoting sexual and reproductive health, wellbeing, and strong communities through education and prevention; and

Whereas STI Awareness Month provides an opportunity to raise awareness about sexually transmitted infections, how they can impact our health, and the importance of prevention, testing, and treatment; and

Whereas STI Awareness Month seeks to reduce stigma related to STIs, discrimination, and fear by encouraging community members to have judgement-free conversations about sexual health, routine screenings, and timely care; and

Whereas Untreated STIs can lead to serious health complications, including pregnancy complications, increased risk of HIV, and long-term impacts on overall health and wellbeing; and

Whereas Prevention strategies such as regular STI testing when needed, vaccinations for vaccine-preventable infections, safer sex practices, and clear communication between partners can significantly lower the risk of acquiring or transmitting STIs; and

Whereas Hidalgo County Health and Human Services along with community partners such as, UTRGV and the Texas Department of State Health Services, are committed to promoting sexual health as an essential part of overall health by expanding access to education, testing, treatment, and support services for all residents.

Now, therefore, be it proclaimed that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby recognizes April as STI Awareness Month, extends appreciation to our Health and Human Services Department for their dedication to the community, and encourages the residents of Hidalgo County to learn about STIs, talk with their healthcare providers, and spread awareness to promote sexual health across our region.

Approved this 28th day of April 2026.

RICHARD F. CORTEZ
County Judge

DAVID L. FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

EVERARDO "EVER" VILLARREAL
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

ELLIE TORRES
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: _____
ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk