## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## Media Contact:

Marissa Conrad

Email: mconrad@phcinc.net Phone: (612) 708-3101

## FREE & Confidential STI/HIV Testing Services Come to Dallas County

Des Moines, Iowa -- March 8, 2022 – The Project of Primary Health Care is bringing FREE and confidential STI/HIV testing and prevention services to Dallas County.

Starting this month, The Project of PHC and Polk County Health Department will offer testing on the last Tuesday of each month at Redfield Medical Clinic, located at 1013 1st St in Redfield.

No appointments are necessary and walk-ins are welcome. Chlamydia, gonorrhea, HIV, syphilis, and Hepatitis C tests will be available. Prevention specialists will be on site to provide sexual health education and connect those who are interested to HIV prevention medications known as <a href="Prep:">Prep</a>.

The first clinic is Tuesday, March 29 from 11:30am - 2:00pm.

This is an opportunity for Polk County Health Department and the Project of PHC to partner to meet the needs of Dallas county residents and provide an access point to care, as the Dallas County Health Department is not currently providing this testing.

"Dallas county is the <u>fastest growing county</u> in Iowa, doubling their population from 2010 to 2020. With that significant growth, there is a gap in care for sexual health services and we are glad to be able to provide services to those who need it," said John Shaw, Prevention Services Manager for the Project.

Questions? Please call The Project of PHC at (515) 248-1595 or Polk County Health Dept. at (515) 286-3758.

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The Project of PHC provides free and confidential services to prevent HIV/STIs as well as engaging people living with HIV in the continuum of care. PHC is a nonprofit community health center with locations throughout Central Iowa. PHC provides medical, dental, behavioral health,

HIV care, homeless support and other services to vulnerable and under resourced populations. For more information, please visit PHCiowa.org.