



***We Can Stop STDs LA Launches “Let’s Talk About It”
Community Activation Campaign Aims to Educate and Empower LA Youth***

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Contact: press@wellchild.org

LOS ANGELES -- *We Can Stop STDs LA* on Thursday announced “Let’s Talk About It”, a community activation campaign set to launch on September 20 at [St. John’s Well Child and Family Center](#) in South Los Angeles.

We Can Stop STDs LA is a movement of the LA County District 2 Community Advisory Coalition (CAC) working to educate and engage the public through various channels, from spreading information through faith leaders and local businesses, to creating informative literature, [YouTube videos](#), and social media content. Press, partners, and elected officials are invited to attend the *Let’s Talk About It* campaign launch for updates on efforts such as local businesses supporting the movement, stories from people who understand the importance of talking about STDs firsthand, and a new release of “The Pocket Guide to Sexual Health Services and Clinics in South LA” which features a vetted list of youth-friendly clinics, youth rights information, and guidance to accessing sexual health services for low to no cost.

“St. John’s is proud to be part of *We Can Stop STDs LA* because we know it’s important to educate, engage, and empower community members to build a supportive environment for young people,” **said St. John’s CEO and President Jim Mangia**. “Health is a fundamental human right that begins with the ability to discuss our lives openly. *Let’s Talk About It* allows youth to be proactive about their health by giving them the resources they need while encouraging them to take ownership of their actions.”

The work of *We Can Stop STDs LA* is fueled by collaboration between the CAC, residents, and local organizations in South LA and District 2, and is supported by the Office of LA County District 2 Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas and the LA County Department of Public Health Division of HIV and STD Programs. Over the past several years, parents, faith leaders, providers, and youth have worked together to reduce stigma around discussing sexual health in an effort to reduce the spread of STDs in South LA. *Let’s Talk About It* is a continuation of the movement’s work to create open communication.

For more information about the coalition, visit www.WeCanStopSTDsLA.org.

Here is the itinerary:

When: Wednesday, September 20 at 4 pm

Where: 4085 S. Vermont Avenue, LA 90037, in the courtyard between Manual Arts High School & St. John’s Well Child and Family Center. **free parking available on Vermont, north of the clinic*

Speakers: [Jim Mangia](#), CEO of St. John’s Well Child and Family Center; Maryjane Puffer, Executive Director of LA Trust for Children’s Health; Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Director of Public Health, LA County Department of Public Health; Mario Pérez, Director, Division of HIV and STD Programs, LA County Department of Public Health.

For more information about the event, contact Valerie Coachman-Moore at (626) 755-1725 or info@WeCanStopSTDsLA.org.

To schedule an interview with St. John’s CEO and President Jim Mangia, contact press@wellchild.org.

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