FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LOCAL HIV/AIDS NEEDS ASSESSMENT LAUNCHING FEBRUARY 1, 2021

Augusta, GA Metropolitan Area- St. Stephen's Ministry, originally founded to provide direct services to those living with HIV, helped those in the CSRA with housing, transportation, food, medical, and monetary needs since 1991. On June 30, 2020, St. Stephen's closed its doors as a direct service provider as the Board of Directors thoughtfully discerned a new direction for the future, to reflect the changing needs of the community.

Current priorities for the organization include plans to fund the greatest needs in HIV/AIDS prevention efforts, care, and/or education. To insure we are targeting the greatest need, we have created an assessment to evaluate the Greater Augusta Area and help us determine how to best grant funds to support the HIV/AIDS community.

Two separate assessments will launch on February 1, 2021, to understand the needs of two groups: the residents of our area (Population) and HIV/AIDS Community Resources such as healthcare providers, clinics, and HIV/AIDS testing sites.

Anyone living in the local Aiken and Augusta metropolitan areas is invited to complete the anonymous Population assessment regardless of their gender, race, HIV Status, sexual orientation, or age. We need to evaluate the data of all demographics since HIV does not discriminate based on these criteria. The assessment for the population is anonymous and no personal information is gathered.

CLICK HERE FOR THE POPULATION ASSESSMENT

Community Resources include, but are not limited to, employees of healthcare providers, general practitioners, doctors, nurse practitioners, nurses, testing centers, municipal and county health department employees, HIV specialty clinics, and caregivers to those infected or affected by HIV/AIDS.

CLICK HERE FOR THE COMMUNITY RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

The assessments will remain open until August 31, 2021. The results of the needs assessments will be presented to the community via the St. Stephen's Ministry web page (https://ststephensministry.org) and at a special Town Hall event, tentatively scheduled for World AIDS Day on December 1, 2021.

We appreciate the opportunity to share this with the community at large, and receive media coverage as we launch this community-wide endeavor.

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