



News Release

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Contacts: [Marqise Allen](#), Communications Office
[Kelly Stowe](#), Communications Office

360-236-4072

360-236-4022

HIV clinic in Thurston County opens to treat under-served community

OLYMPIA — A new Olympia-based facility funded by the Department of Health is improving access to primary medical care for HIV-positive people in the area.

The satellite clinic opened in May inside SeaMar Community Health Center and is operated by Harborview Madison Clinic. A Harborview specialist is available one day a week to provide HIV care to Thurston County residents and those in nearby communities. It will cost \$51,000 to operate the clinic for the first 14 months.

The state health department estimates that there are 517 people living with HIV in Thurston, Mason, Lewis, Grays Harbor, and Pacific counties. Letters to 60 HIV-positive residents in Thurston County and the surrounding area told them about services at the new clinic.

SeaMar Community Health Center is the third satellite HIV clinic sponsored by the state health department in Puget Sound cities to help make HIV treatment more accessible. The clinic in Everett opened in 2008 and one in Bremerton opened in 2007. A fourth clinic in Federal Way is expected to open next month.

Satellite clinics staffed by HIV medical specialists from Harborview help patients in need of ongoing medical services who might otherwise be vulnerable to falling out-of-care or facing treatment delays due to having to travel long distances to find an infectious disease provider.

HIV patients living in the Thurston County area can visit the SeaMar satellite clinic at 3030 Limited Lane NW, Olympia or call 360-742-5000.

The [Department of Health website](#) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

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