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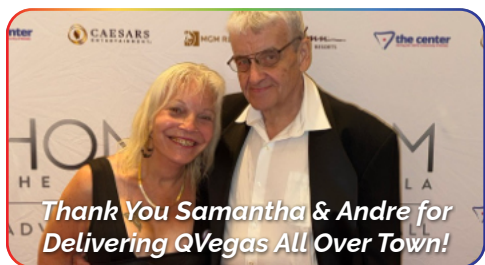
Farabi Wellness Center is revolutionizing LGBTQ+ healthcare in Las Vegas, tackling overlooked issues like anal cancer prevention. With expert care, research, and advocacy, Dr. Farabi is saving butts—literally—one screening at a time!

Frank DeCaro's 'Disco: Music, Movies & Mania Under the Mirror Ball' celebrates disco's cultural impact, LGBTQ+ legacy, and enduring influence. Join him at Gipsy this weekend for a night of stories, music, and dance!

Dust Las Vegas introduces gaming, Latin-inspired pizzas, and exciting entertainment, including Eureka O'Hara's Big Girl Brunch and Latin Night Fridays.



Russ White & Garrett Pattiani
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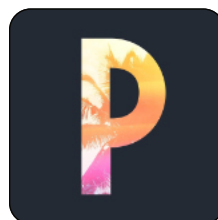
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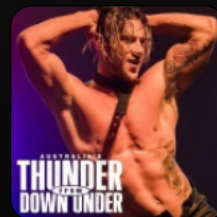
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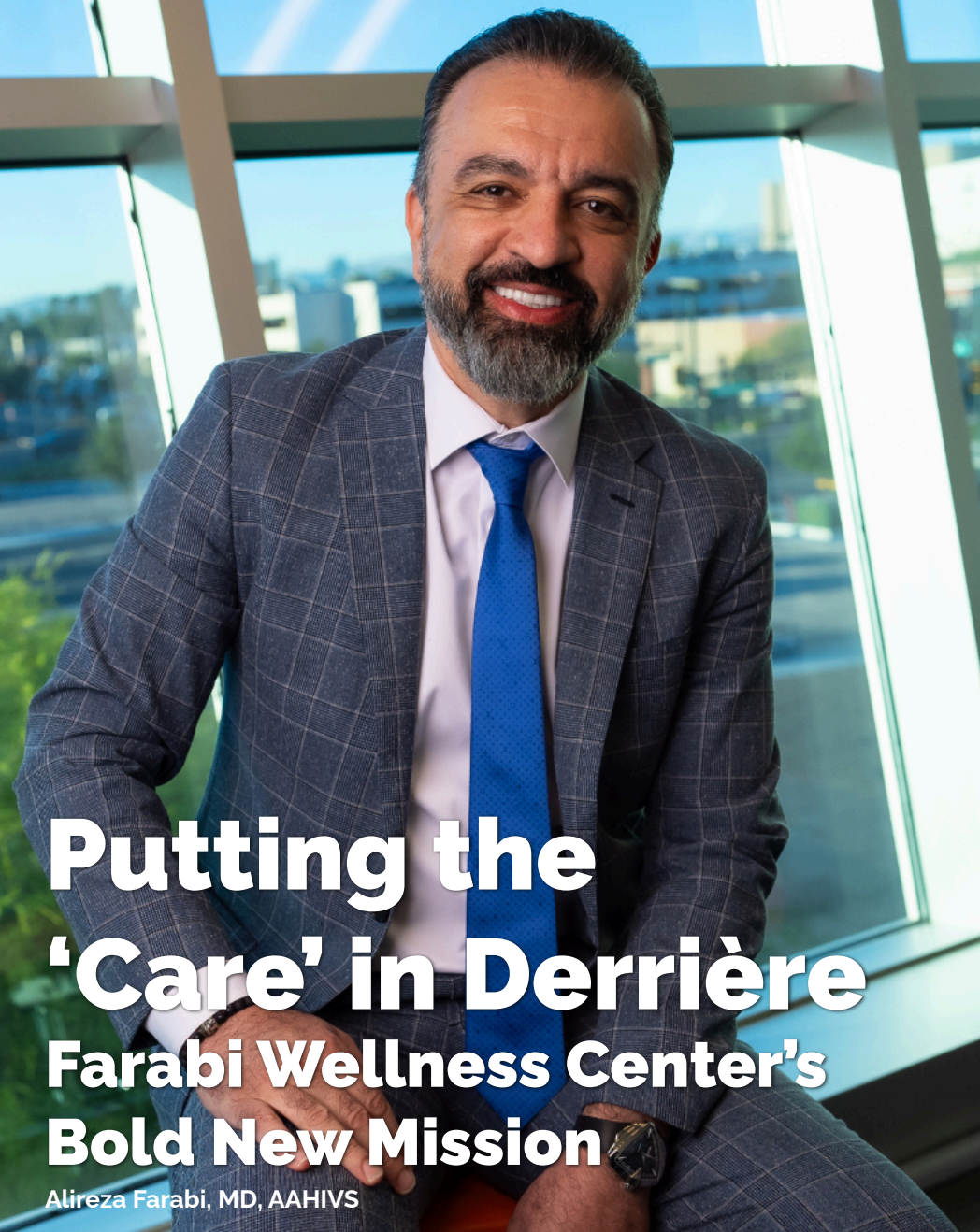
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Putting the 'Care' in Derrière

Farabi Wellness Center's Bold New Mission

Alireza Farabi, MD, AAHIVS

Healthcare is evolving, but some medical needs have long been overlooked—especially within the LGBTQ+ community. Dr. Alireza Farabi, a double board-certified specialist in infectious disease and internal medicine, has spent more than a decade serving thousands of HIV patients. His latest endeavor, the Farabi Wellness Center, aims to address critical gaps in healthcare by introducing services that have never before been available in Nevada.

With a focus on preventive care, sexual health, and cutting-edge medical advancements, the center is poised to make a lasting impact. One of the most pressing issues Dr. Farabi is tackling? Anal dysplasia and anal cancer—two conditions that disproportionately affect men who have sex with men (MSM), individuals living with HIV, and even some women, yet have remained largely undiagnosed and untreated.

"Based on my experience and what my patients need, we are now providing additional services that Nevada has never had before," Dr. Farabi explains. "Anal

dysplasia and anal cancer are far more common than people realize, yet many individuals have never been tested. Our mission is to change that by increasing awareness, offering screenings, and ultimately saving lives."

Understanding Anal Cancer and Why It's Being Overlooked

Despite growing awareness of LGBTQ+ health concerns, anal cancer remains one of the most underdiagnosed conditions in the community. Often confused with colon cancer, it is, in fact, a completely different disease that affects the last one to two inches of the rectal canal. Unlike colon cancer, which is detected through colonoscopy, anal cancer cannot be identified with this method.

"If you wait until a colonoscopy finds it, it's already too late—it means it has reached stage four," Dr. Farabi warns. "That's why we focus on anal Pap smears. A simple swab can detect precancerous cells early, allowing us to treat and prevent cancer before it ever develops."

The primary cause of anal dysplasia and anal cancer is the human papillomavirus

(HPV), specifically certain high-risk strains. HPV is widely known for causing cervical cancer in women, but many people—including healthcare professionals—fail to recognize its impact on anal health. "Women routinely receive cervical Pap smears, but the same screening process should be applied to anal health, especially in high-risk populations," he says. "Unfortunately, this has never been made a priority in healthcare, and it's time for that to change."

How the Screening Process Works

Unlike traditional colon cancer screenings, an anal Pap smear is a quick and painless procedure that involves a simple swab of the anal canal. This sample is tested for high-risk HPV strains and abnormal cell changes. If the test comes back positive, the next step is a high-resolution anoscopy (HRA).

"There is a lot of misunderstanding about anoscopy versus endoscopy," Dr. Farabi clarifies. "Anoscopy uses a specialized, magnified camera—16 times more powerful than the human eye—combined with an acid flush to detect abnormal cells. It takes time and precision, but this method allows us to find pre-cancerous lesions before they become a serious problem."

If high-grade lesions are detected, treatment options range from topical medications to targeted therapies, preventing progression to cancer. "Many people assume that anal dysplasia only affects individuals who engage in anal intercourse, but that's simply not true. HPV can be transmitted in various ways, and anyone with a history of HPV, cervical dysplasia, HIV, or other immune-compromising conditions should get screened."

Breaking Down Barriers in LGBTQ+ Healthcare

Dr. Farabi's passion for LGBTQ+ healthcare goes beyond providing individual treatments. His clinic is committed to addressing larger systemic issues that have historically left the community underserved. One of the biggest challenges? A lack of awareness and proactive care.

"The number of anal cancer cases in the U.S. is rising rapidly because people aren't being screened," he says. "Meanwhile, the number of cervical cancer cases is decreasing because women are routinely tested and treated. We need to apply the same standard of care to anal health."

Stigma, misinformation, and limited access to specialists have contributed to the neglect of this critical issue. By making screening easily accessible and educating both patients and healthcare providers, Dr. Farabi hopes to change the trajectory of anal cancer rates in Nevada and beyond.

Comprehensive Care for the LGBTQ+ Community

Farabi Wellness Center goes beyond anal

dysplasia screenings. The clinic also provides:

- **HIV and STI testing & treatment** – As one of the only infectious disease specialists in Nevada fully dedicated to HIV and STIs, Dr. Farabi offers comprehensive testing and treatment options.
- **Hormone replacement therapy (HRT)** – Supporting transgender and nonbinary patients with a holistic approach that considers metabolic, cardiovascular, and bone health.
- **Medical weight loss programs** – Helping patients achieve long-term health improvements by addressing weight-related conditions such as hypertension, high cholesterol, and diabetes.
- **Sexual health education and preventive care** – Advocating for routine screenings, vaccinations, and proactive healthcare management.

"When I see patients lose weight, their blood pressure improves, their cholesterol levels drop, their sugar stabilizes, and they feel better overall," Dr. Farabi says. "Instead of just prescribing more medications, I want to help people take control of their health at the root level."

Fighting Insurance Challenges & Healthcare Inequality

Despite the clinic's commitment to providing accessible care, Dr. Farabi acknowledges the challenges that come with navigating the healthcare system.

"I am the only infectious disease doctor in Nevada dedicating 100% of my time to HIV, STDs, and anal cancer prevention—without any grants," he says. "If a patient doesn't have insurance, we don't turn them away. That's our philosophy, and it has been since day one."

But running a healthcare practice without external funding presents obstacles. One of the biggest frustrations? Insurance companies denying or delaying essential treatments. "We constantly battle insurance companies to approve necessary medications and procedures. I have to employ a full-time staff member just to handle pre-authorizations. It's exhausting, but we fight for our patients because they deserve the best care."

A Grand Opening with a Purpose

To introduce the Farabi Wellness Center to the community, Dr. Farabi is hosting a grand opening event this week, welcoming everyone to learn more about the clinic's mission and services.

"This isn't just about opening a clinic," he says. "It's about launching a movement. Five years from now, I want people to look back and say that we helped save lives by making anal cancer screenings routine in LGBTQ+ healthcare."

Dr. Farabi's vision extends beyond just treating individual patients—he hopes to change the culture around LGBTQ+

healthcare. "When I talk about anal dysplasia and anal cancer, people act like I'm talking about something from another planet," he laughs. "But this has existed for years—we just haven't addressed it. Now is the time."

Research and Future Innovations

In addition to patient care, the Farabi Wellness Center is also leading groundbreaking research on HIV treatments and potential cures. As one of a few select centers in the U.S. participating in HIV cure studies, Dr. Farabi remains optimistic about the future.

"We are working on something that could change the world. The idea of an HIV cure isn't just theoretical—we are getting closer," he reveals. "The research we are doing right here in Las Vegas could help eliminate this disease once and for all."

Final Thoughts: A Commitment to Community

For Dr. Farabi, the Farabi Wellness Center is more than a medical practice—it's a calling. "I want to be a source of hope and care for our community," he says. "This clinic isn't just about diagnosing and treating—it's about fighting for the health and dignity of LGBTQ+ individuals."

From pioneering anal cancer screenings to leading HIV cure research, Dr. Farabi is on a mission to revolutionize healthcare in Las Vegas. And with the doors of the Farabi Wellness Center now open, the community has a powerful new ally in the fight for better health.

For more information, visit farabiwellnesscenter.com or follow them on social media for updates on screenings, events, and LGBTQ+ health resources.



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Rolling in Dough: Dust Las Vegas Serves Up Jackpots and Pizzas

Las Vegas is known for its ability to reinvent itself, and Dust Las Vegas is no exception. The stylish venue, known for its welcoming atmosphere and inventive nightlife, is embracing a bold new chapter with the introduction of gaming, an elevated Latin-inspired pizza menu, and an exciting entertainment lineup featuring top-tier drag performances. Owner Ryan Bandy is shaking things up, bringing his signature flavors to the desert while fine-tuning a nightlife experience that caters to locals and visitors alike.

Jackpots and Late-Night Wins

Gaming has officially landed at Dust Las Vegas, and the response has been immediate. "We were approved on January 30th and had the machines installed right away," Bandy shares. "Within the first two weeks, we already had a \$20,000 jackpot winner!"

With the addition of gaming, the venue has adjusted its hours, allowing for more flexibility to meet customer demand. While weekends start at 11 AM, weekdays currently open at 4 PM, but Bandy is open to expanding as traffic increases. "I'm nimble with labor costs, so I want to make sure we have the right balance before moving to 24-hour operations," he explains.

A Slice of Something New

While Dust originally launched with a classic bar menu, Bandy quickly realized an opportunity to bring something truly unique to the Vegas dining scene—his signature Latin-inspired pizzas from Papi's Pizza Pub in Springfield, Illinois.

"We started out with the usual bar fare—burgers, fries, the basics," Bandy says. "But I wanted to offer something different. My pizza restaurant has such bold, unique flavors, and I knew they'd be a hit here."

Leading the menu is the crowd-favorite El Papi Pizza, which skips the traditional tomato sauce in favor of a street corn blend as its base, topped with fire-braised chicken, Chihuahua cheese, and a spicy kickin' bourbon sauce. The blend of smoky, creamy, and spicy flavors sets it apart from anything else in town.

"We're rolling out the pizzas first, making sure we get the quality and consistency right," Bandy says. "Next, we'll be adding sandwiches and salads—and I've got a big collaboration announcement coming soon."

Big Personalities, Bigger Performances

Entertainment at Dust is also evolving. The venue has partnered with Eureka O'Hara, the beloved drag superstar, to launch the Big Girl Brunch series. After a successful first event, they're bringing it back bigger and better in March.

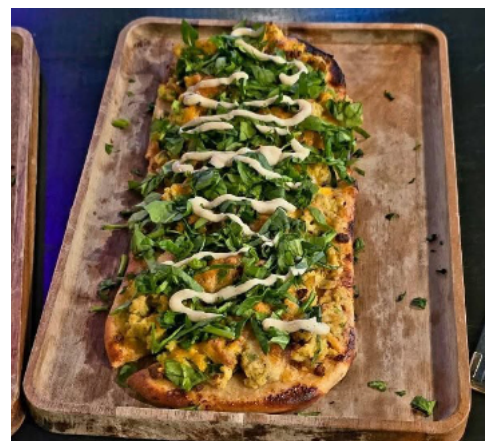
"Our goal is to offer something fresh that other brunch spots aren't doing," Bandy says.

Latin Night has also found a new home on Fridays, moving from Sundays due to overwhelming demand.

"We saw a shift—people are more excited to go out on Fridays, so we adjusted," Bandy explains.

With gourmet pizza, thrilling gaming, and top-tier entertainment, Dust Las Vegas is proving that innovation and reinvention are key to staying ahead in the city's ever-evolving nightlife. Whether you're spinning for a jackpot, savoring a slice, or catching a dazzling drag performance, Dust is quickly becoming a must-visit destination.

Visit dustlasvegas.com online or in person at 855 E Twain Ave Ste 114.



Top: El Papi Pizza, Left to Right: Papi-roni, Taco, Brunch Flatbreads



Disco Never Died: A Conversation with Frank DeCaro on His Latest Book and the Enduring Legacy of Disco

By Garrett Pattiani

Few cultural phenomena have burned as brightly as disco. From the pulsating beats of Donna Summer to the glittering dance floors of Studio 54, the era defined a generation. And now, thanks to writer, pop culture historian, and entertainment icon Frank DeCaro, disco is having another well-deserved moment in the spotlight. His latest book, *Disco: Music, Movies & Mania Under the Mirror Ball*, takes readers on a deep dive into the genre's impact, legendary figures, and its lasting cultural significance. Ahead of his upcoming book signing at Gipsy Las Vegas on Friday, February 21st, I had the pleasure of chatting with DeCaro about disco's revival, its role in LGBTQ+ history, and the surprising stories he uncovered while writing the book.

Giving Disco Its Flowers

"I wanted to write something that gave disco the respect it never truly got," DeCaro explains. "When I was writing my last book on the history of drag in show business, people told me it was finally being taken seriously. So, I thought, what else deserves that treatment? And disco was an obvious choice."

Despite being dismissed by some in the late '70s, disco's influence has endured. "There's been a lot of reclamation happening," he notes. "People are saying, 'Don't underestimate how good and long-lasting disco is.' We might hear it in supermarkets now instead of nightclubs, but those songs are classics for a reason."

The pandemic also played a role in bringing disco back into the mainstream. "During COVID, people needed uplifting music," he recalls. "You'd put on I Will Survive and suddenly feel a little more hopeful."

And the genre's DNA is everywhere today, from Dua Lipa's *Levitating* to Miley Cyrus' *Flowers*. Even Las Vegas is getting in on the action, with *Disco Show* recently opening on the Strip.

The Bizarre and the Beautiful: Strange Disco Stories

In researching the book, DeCaro unearthed some truly unexpected disco relics. "There's a Bill Cosby disco album called *Disco Bill*," he says, shaking his head. "It's bizarre. And Frank Sinatra recorded disco tracks too! Wayne Newton even had a disco Christmas song called *Disco Hustle*."

One of his favorite discoveries was Monti Rock III, a Las Vegas icon best known as the DJ in *Saturday Night Fever*. "He had early disco hits even though he wasn't really a singer—he just talked his way through songs. And yet, he made it work."

And then there's Cher's *Hell on Wheels* music video. "It's about the gayest thing ever filmed," he laughs. "Leopard print workout gear, matching roller skates, drag queens, porn stars, horses, construction equipment—just completely deranged."

First Encounters with Disco

For DeCaro, disco was love at first listen. "I was about 13 when *Rock the Boat* by Hues Corporation came on the radio," he recalls. "We were in a ceramics studio, painting these ridiculous figures, and that song just lit up the room."

His first disco concert? The Bee Gees at Madison Square Garden. "It was insane," he says. "It was 1979, and they were riding the wave of *Saturday Night Fever*. That crowd's energy was unforgettable."

In a moment of cosmic alignment, his first event promoting this book happened 45 years later—to the day and hour—just six blocks from that very concert. "It gave me chills," he admits. "It felt like the universe was telling me I was on the right track."

The LGBTQ+ Legacy of Disco

Disco and LGBTQ+ culture are deeply intertwined. "It played a massive role in LGBTQ+ nightlife," DeCaro explains. "For queer people, disco was freedom. It was about expression, joy, and inclusivity."

He's quick to point out how the genre faced backlash, especially with the infamous "Disco Sucks" movement. "People like to say it was just about the music," he says,

"but a lot of it was about who was making and enjoying disco—Black artists, women, and the LGBTQ+ community. Straight white guys felt left out, and they lashed out."

The most notorious example? Disco Demolition Night in 1979. "It looked like a MAGA rally," he says. "People were blowing up records—many of them by Black artists. It wasn't just about music; it was about exclusion."

The Ultimate Disco Playlist

If DeCaro were making a definitive disco playlist, these five tracks would be must-haves:

1. I Feel Love – Donna Summer
2. You Make Me Feel (Mighty Real) – Sylvester
3. Supernature – Cerrone
4. Cherchez La Femme – Dr. Buzzard's Original Savannah Band
5. There's No Business Like Show Business – Ethel Merman (Yes, really. It's so bad it's amazing.)

A Night of Disco in Las Vegas

For those wanting to step back into the world of disco, DeCaro's upcoming event at Gipsy Las Vegas is the perfect opportunity. "I'm so excited," Garrett says. "I even hung the disco ball myself—almost fell off a ladder doing it!"

Joining him will be TV producer Michael Levitt, who met his husband at Gipsy years ago. Las Vegas royalty Larry "Hot Chocolate" Edwards will also be in attendance, making it a night to remember.

"Gipsy actually started as *Disco Fever* from 1970 to 1978," I tell him. His eyes light up. "Well, I'm definitely going to have disco fever that night," he grins.

Frank DeCaro's Disco: Music, Movies & Mania Under the Mirror Ball is more than just a history lesson—it's a celebration of a genre that never really went away. Whether you're a lifelong fan or new to the scene, this book proves that disco is alive, well, and ready to get you on your feet once again.

Find out more at frankdecaro.com and [@frankdecaroshow](https://www.instagram.com/frankdecaroshow).





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Serving the LGBTQ Community of Nevada

LGBTQ+ Resources

THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY CENTER OF SOUTHERN NEVADA
thecenterlv.org

ACLU
aclunv.org

ADL
lasvegas.adl.org

ALCOHOLICS TOGETHER
alcoholicstogetherlasvegas.com

BEARS LAS VEGAS
bears.lv.org

COMMUNITY COUNSELING CENTER OF SOUTHERN NEVADA
cccfn.org

HENDERSON PRIDE
hendersonpride.org

HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN
hrc.org

IMPERIAL ROYALE SOVEREIGN COURT OF THE DESERT EMPIRE
irscdei.org

LAMBDA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
lambdalv.com

LAS VEGAS MEN'S CHORUS
lvmenschorus.org

LAS VEGAS PRIME TIMERS
lasvegasprimetimers.com

LEATHER UNIFORM CLUB OF LAS VEGAS (LUC OF LV)
lucoflv.com

LEGACY COUNSELING
legacycounselingandworkforceconnections.com

MAMA DRAGONS
mamadragons.org

NEVADA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION
ngra.com

THE PRIDE TREE
thepridetree.lv.com

SILVER STATE EQUALITY
silverstateequality.org

SOUTHERN NEVADA ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER QUEER SOCIETY
snapiqs.org

YOUNG: EQUAL
youngequal.org

COMMUNITY EVENTS



HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

THIRD THURSDAY

QUEEN BAR
LAS VEGAS

1215 S LAS VEGAS BLVD
FEBRUARY 20, 2025
5:30PM



San City Sisters
20th Anniversary Celebration
Red Dress
March 22nd, 2025



KING | QUEEN | XEEN OF SPADES COMPETITION

MARCH 1st
6pm-9pm
Badlands Saloon

No Cover Raffles
Live Entertainment
Auctions \$1 Jello Shots!

IRSCDEI.ORG

Email info@qvegas.com to add your organization to our directory.

HIV Resources

AID FOR AIDS OF NEVADA (AFAN)
afanlv.org

AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION (AHF)
aidshealth.org

FARABI WELLNESS CENTER
hplv.com

GOLDEN RAINBOW
goldenrainbow.org

HORIZON RIDGE WELLNESS CLINIC
hrc.lv.org

SIN CITY SISTERS OF PERPETUAL INDULGENCE
sinsitysisters.org

STI Testing

THE ARLENE COOPER COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER
thecenterlv.org

AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION (AHF)
aidshealth.org

HUNTRIDGE FAMILY CLINIC
huntridgefamilyclinic.org

SOUTHERN NEVADA HEALTH DISTRICT
southernnevadahealthdistrict.org

UMC
umcsn.com



FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Every Wednesday of the month
9:30-11:30 AM
401 S. Maryland Pkwy

First come, first served while supplies last.

the center
Feeding the Las Vegas Community

three square
together, we can feed everyone

FEEDING AMERICA

Q VEGAS BAR & NIGHTCLUB GUIDE

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BOTTLE SERVICE ONLINE
PIRANHAVEGAS.COM