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The Long Island Association for AIDS Care recognizes National Gay Men’s HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

National Gay Men’s HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, launched in 2008 by the National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA), is an observance day aimed at recognizing the disproportionate impact of the HIV epidemic on gay men. National Gay Men’s HIV/AIDS Awareness Day takes place annually on September 27.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that gay and bisexual men accounted for:

- 81% (30,689) of the 37,887 estimated HIV diagnoses among all males aged 13 years and older and 65% of the 47,352 estimated diagnoses among all persons receiving an HIV diagnosis in 2013.
- 55% of the estimated number of persons diagnosed with AIDS among all adults and adolescents in the United States in 2013.
- 47% of all deaths of persons with an AIDS diagnosis in the United States since the beginning of the epidemic until the end of 2011.

According to the New York State HIV/AIDS Surveillance Annual Report: For Cases Diagnosed Through December 2013, men who have sex with men comprised 37.3% of all people living with HIV and AIDS in New York State. With proper prevention methods, such as condom use and adherence to pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for high-risk individuals, the spread of HIV within the gay and bisexual male community can be greatly reduced.

In honor of National Gay Men’s HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, LIAAC will be promoting a social media campaign aimed at providing education about pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and condom use for high-risk individuals. For more information on how LIAAC is celebrating National Gay Men’s HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, visit our Facebook events page at <https://www.facebook.com/LIAAC.inc/events> or call our toll free hotline at 1-866-236-3448.

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