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The Long Island Association for AIDS Care recognizes National Latino AIDS Awareness Day (NLAAD)

October 15, 2016 is National Latino AIDS Awareness Day, an initiative organized by the Latino Commission on AIDS, the Hispanic Federation, and many other organizations. According to AIDS.gov, the NLAAD campaign works annually at building capacity for non-profit organizations and health departments in order to reach Latino/Hispanic communities, promote HIV testing, and provide HIV prevention information and access to care. The theme for 2016 is “We’ll Defeat AIDS, Con Ganas”.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that the Hispanic/Latino community accounted for:

- 23% (10,888) of the estimated 48,145 new diagnoses of HIV infection in the United States and six dependent areas in 2013
- 21% (251,700) of the estimated 1.2 million people with HIV infection in the United States in 2012
- 13% of the 6,955 deaths related to AIDS as of 2013

According to the New York State HIV/AIDS Surveillance Annual Report: For Cases Diagnosed Through December 2013, Hispanic individuals comprised 32.9% of newly diagnosed HIV cases in Nassau and Suffolk counties. With proper prevention methods, such as condom use, adherence to pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), and HIV testing and care, the spread of HIV within the Hispanic/Latino community can be greatly reduced.

In honor of National Latino AIDS Awareness Day, LIAAC will be promoting a social media campaign aimed at providing education about HIV testing and care, pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and condom use. For more information on how LIAAC is celebrating National Latino 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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