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The Long Island Association for AIDS Care recognizes National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

May 19 is National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. It is organized by the Banyan Tree Project, a program created by API Wellness to stop HIV and AIDS related stigma in Asian and Pacific Islander communities.

Although Asians and Pacific Islanders are a small percentage of new HIV diagnoses in the United States, the latest CDC New HIV Diagnoses Surveillance shows a marked increase of diagnoses within these two ethnic groups, especially among the gay and bisexual men of each community.

The United States Census Bureau reports that the number of Asians living in Suffolk and Nassau counties has grown exponentially since 2010, and even outpaces the growth of Long Island's white and black populations. According to the New York State Comptroller's 2016 report, there were 1.8 million Asians living in the state, mainly in New York City and its suburbs.

It is important that LIAAC and other health organizations recognize the shift in Long Island's demographics, and adjust to serve these growing communities.

In recognition of National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day 2017, LIAAC will run a social media campaign announcing the day. We will also reach out to local Asian cultural centers and organizations to participate with us on their social media accounts.

For more information, call our toll free hotline at 1-877-865-4222

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