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Long Island Association for AIDS Care (LIAAC) recognizes National Prevention Week.

National Prevention Week takes place annually, and is dedicated to increasing public awareness of substance abuse and mental health issues. This year the event takes place **May 13 - 19**. The three primary goals of National Prevention Week are: to involve communities in raising awareness of behavioral health issues and in implementing prevention strategies; to foster partnerships and collaboration with federal agencies and national organizations dedicated to behavioral and public health; and to promote and disseminate quality behavioral health resources and publications. This year, Prevention Week takes place from **May 13 to May 19, 2018** and the overall theme is *“Action Today. Healthier Tomorrow.”*

Currently, the United States has been within the grip of a devastating opioid abuse crisis, one from which Long Island is not immune. According to the New York State Comptroller’s 2016 report on prescription opioid abuse and heroin addiction, Suffolk County had the highest rate of heroine overdoses of all the counties in the state. It is important that we take this week as an opportunity to speak to young people about the dangers of abusing prescription and illicit drugs, such as bodily damage, infectious diseases, and even death.

To get involved with our efforts, visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/LIAAC.inc> and follow us on Twitter at @LIAAC_inc.

For more information, call our toll free hotline at 1-866-236-3448.

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