



**For Immediate Release: September 11, 2015**

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**The Long Island Association for AIDS Care, Inc. (LIAAC), Observes National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day (NHAAAD).**

September 18, 2015 is **National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day (NHAAAD)**. The Long Island Association for AIDS Care supports efforts to bring awareness to the issues related to HIV/AIDS and the aging population in our country. Through **National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day (NHAAAD)**, our organization is committed to putting an end to HIV/AIDS related stigma, discrimination, and misinformation about prevention care and treatment for those over the age of 50. **National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day**, launched in 2008 by The AIDS Institute, is recognized by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of HIV/AIDS Policy, and [www.aids.gov](http://www.aids.gov).

In recent years there has been a significant increase in the number of people aged 50 and over living with HIV. In 2011 the CDC reported that of the estimated 1.2 million people in the United States that are living with HIV infection, 26% (313,200) were persons aged 55 and older. In 2013, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that individuals aged 50 and older within the United States accounted for approximately:

- 8,575 new **HIV** diagnosis (44% of which were among those aged 50-54)
- 27% of all new **AIDS** diagnoses
- 59% of all deaths of persons with **AIDS** in 2012

In 2013, within the United States, the estimated rate (per 100,000) of HIV diagnosis for blacks aged 50-54 was 59.3, compared to 23.3 for Hispanics/Latinos, and 8.7 for white, This disparity, brings to light how significantly higher the minority populations are effected by HIV even among those 50 and over.

In New York State, for persons 50 and over, there were 54,503 individuals living with HIV/AIDS and 18.9% newly diagnosed cases between January and December of 2010. As of December 2012, 2,741 individuals in Nassau and Suffolk Counties age 50 and over, were living with HIV and AIDS. Staying true to our mission, LIAAC works tirelessly to bring testing and educational services into every community on Long Island. In recognition of **National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day**, LIAAC will be participating in a number of events aimed specifically at Long Islander's aged 50 and over. LIAAC offers FREE and Confidential testing to anyone who requests it. For more information on our education and testing events visit our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/LIAAC.inc/events](http://www.facebook.com/LIAAC.inc/events). To learn more about our mission, and our programs & services visit us at [liaac.org](http://liaac.org).

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