



**For Immediate Release: September 22, 2015**

Contacts: Catherine Hart, LMSW                      D. Ray Ward  
                  Chief Operating Officer                Chief Program Officer  
                  Tel.: (631) 385-2451                              Tel.:(631) 385-2451

**The Long Island Association for AIDS Care celebrates National Gay Men's HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.**

September 27, 2015 is National Gay Men's HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, a day created to raise gay men's awareness of the HIV epidemic and the role they play in bringing HIV to an end. Although great strides have been made in the war against HIV/AIDS since the start of the HIV epidemic over 30 years ago, there is still a great amount of work to be done. The CDC reports that gay and bisexual men are the most severely effected group within the United States. According to the CDC in 2013 African Americans (39%) accounted for the largest percentage of diagnosis of HIV infection among gay and bisexual men within the United States, followed by white males (32%) and then Hispanic/Latino men (23%).

In New York the number of gay men diagnosed and living with HIV far exceeds those of any other group. In 2010 men who have sex with men (MSM) accounted for 45.5% of all males living with HIV/AIDS and 62% of all newly diagnosed individuals. There is still a disproportionate impact among newly diagnosed young black and Hispanic MSM, with 82% of cases occurring within this racial/ethnic group. These numbers bring to light the necessity for continued efforts to bring testing, information, and care to this highly affected and vulnerable population.

The Long Island Association for AIDS Care is dedicated to bringing awareness and services to the MSM population and every individual touched by HIV/AIDS. LIAAC provides free and confidential HIV testing, education, and outreach initiatives to Long Island communities. For information on events we will host this year and testing locations, visit our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/LIAAC.inc](http://www.facebook.com/LIAAC.inc) or call our toll free hotline at 1-877-TO-LIAAC.

**SINCE 1986**  
**LONG ISLAND ASSOCIATION FOR AIDS CARE, INC.**  
GAIL BAROUH, PhD, PRESIDENT/CEO  
60 ADAMS AVENUE • HAUPPAUGE, NY 11788  
business: (631) 385-2451 • fax: (631) 271-5816 • hotline: 1-877-TO-LIAAC  
[www.LIAAC.org](http://www.LIAAC.org)