



**For Immediate Release: March 3, 2015**

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**The Long Island Association for AIDS Care celebrates National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.**

March 10, 2015 is National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, an annual observance that encourages people to take action in the fight against HIV/AIDS and raise awareness of its impact on women and girls. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, at the end of 2010, one in four people living with HIV in the United States were women. According to the New York State Department of Health, 34.6% of living HIV cases in Nassau and Suffolk counties are women with women being 32.5% of the Long Island population living with both HIV and AIDS. Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino women continue to be disproportionately affected by HIV, compared with women of other races/ethnicities. Of the total number of estimated new HIV infections among women reported by the CDC in 2010, 64% were in African Americans, 18% were in whites, and 15% were in Hispanic/Latino women. Women and girls can take action against HIV/AIDS by getting tested, practicing safer sex, avoiding drug use and sharing needles, talking about HIV prevention, confronting stigma, and providing support to those living with HIV.

In recognition of National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, the Long Island Association for AIDS Care will launch a week-long HIV/AIDS education and testing initiative. Check LIAAC's official Facebook events page for more details. For more information on National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day and for a comprehensive list of testing locations, visit our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/LIAAC.inc>, our website at [www.liaac.org](http://www.liaac.org) or call our toll free hotline at 1-877-TO-LIAAC.

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