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The Long Island Association for AIDS Care celebrates National Youth HIV & AIDS Awareness Day.

April 10, 2015 is National Youth HIV & AIDS Awareness Day, an annual observance with the purpose of educating the public about the impact of HIV and AIDS on young people as well as highlighting the amazing work young people are doing across the country to fight the HIV and AIDS epidemic.

Today's young people are the first generation that has never known a world without HIV and AIDS. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, youth aged 13 to 24 accounted for an estimated 26% of all new HIV infections in the United States in 2010 and almost 60% of youth with HIV in the United States do not know they are infected. Despite this harsh reality, young people key in the fight against HIV are determined to end this epidemic.

This month we hope young people make it a priority to:

- Get tested. Most young people are not getting tested for HIV and STDs, making it more likely for them to transmit the virus to others.
- Stay safe. If you choose to be sexually active, use a condom every time.
- Speak up. Talk to your partner, your doctor, your friends, the public, and your parents about HIV and STDs. Speaking up breaks down stigma and makes sexual health easier to talk about.

In recognition of National Youth HIV & AIDS Awareness Day, the Long Island Association for AIDS Care will provide testing and education services across Long Island. Check LIAAC's official Facebook events page for more details. For more information on National Youth 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 or call our toll free hotline at 1-877-TO-LIAAC.

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