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

September 27, 2014 is the 6th Annual 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. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, since the first cases of AIDS were reported in five gay men in 1981, gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (MSM) across the country have been at the heart of the U.S. epidemic. They carry the greatest burden of this disease, representing approximately 4% of the U.S. population but accounting for 63% of estimated new HIV infections in 2010.

About one in five MSM in the 21 U.S. cities hardest hit by AIDS have HIV infections and nearly half don't know it. Because of the high rate of HIV in this population, it is important for gay, bisexual, and MSM to know their status and get linked to medical care and other prevention services.

The Long Island Association for AIDS Care 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 or call our toll free hotline at 1-877-TO-LIAAC.

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