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The Long Island Association for AIDS Care observes World AIDS Day

December 1, 2013 marks the 25th World AIDS Day annual observance. Each year, people come together to show their support for those living with HIV/AIDS, to commemorate those who have died due to the illness, and to fundraise to help support research. The 2011-2015 World AIDS Day theme is “getting to zero: zero new infections, zero discrimination, zero AIDS-related deaths.” The theme is led by the National AIDS Trust and is designed to encourage individual responsibility by taking action and getting tested and becoming educated on the facts.

New York is among the top ten states with the largest number of HIV cases, which makes Long Island one of the largest HIV populated suburban areas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Statistics show that HIV/AIDS is present and affecting our communities. Through 2010, in the United States the cumulative number of estimated AIDS diagnoses was 1,155,792.

In recognition of World AIDS Day 2013, the Long Island Association for AIDS Care will be launching a week-long HIV/AIDS education and testing initiative. Staff will provide free and confidential HIV testing and education within Long Island’s communities:

November 27th: Tabling at Green Acres Mall Food court from 11:00 am- 3:00 pm.

November 30th: Testing at Nuts n Bolts in Holbrook from 6:00 pm- 2:00 am.

December 2nd: Outreach and education: HIV 101 at 452 Suffolk Avenue, Brentwood.

December 4th: HIV testing at Walgreens in Elmont from 2:00 pm- 8:00 pm.

December 4th: HIV education at North Babylon Public Library from 12:00-3:00 pm.

For more information on LIAAC’s World AIDS Day awareness initiative and a complete list of testing locations and times, please visit our Facebook events page at <https://www.facebook.com/LIAAC.inc/events>. Show your support of World AIDS Day and wear a red ribbon on December 1st.

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