



National Asian & Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day 2019

Launched by the Banyan Tree Project, #NAPIHAAD is Sunday, May 19.

May 17, 2019

Sunday, May 19, marks National Asian & Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NAPIHAAD) 2019. The campaign was launched in 2005 by the Banyan Tree Project, an HIV-related social marketing program that is part of API Wellness, along with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).



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Today is #nationalasianandpacificislanderhivaidsawarenessday. Nearly 2/3 of Asians have never been tested for #hiv. Read more about #endingstigma in Asian and Pacific Islander communities.

<http://banyantreeproject.org>

A post shared by Elizabeth Taylor AIDS FDN (@elizabethayloraidfoundation) on May 19, 2015 at 10:55am PDT

[According to the CDC](#), Asians make up 6% of the nation's population but accounted for about 2% of HIV diagnoses in 2017. Specifically, 38,739 people were diagnosed with HIV in the United States in 2017. Of those, 822 were Asian men, and 120 were Asian women. What's more, about nine in 10 Asian men who tested HIV positive were gay or bisexual.

"Some Asians may avoid seeking testing, counseling or treatment because of language barriers or fear of discrimination, the stigma of homosexuality, immigration issues or fear of bringing shame to their families," writes the CDC on its website, which also warns that "the reported number of HIV cases among Asians may not reflect the true HIV diagnoses in this population because of race/ethnicity misidentification. This could lead to the underestimation of HIV infection in this population."



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May 19th marks #NationalAsianAndPacificIslanderHIVAIDSAwarenessDay According to Guam's

Department of Public Health and Social Services' Bureau of Communicable Disease Control's HIV

Surveillance Report as of December 31, 2014, there has been a cumulative 253 cases on Guam since

1985. Of the 253 reports 19% are Asian and 53% are Pacific Islanders. And of the 253 cases 50% are

classified “Male-to-Male Contact or MSM”. From this report the majority of the reported cases are from unprotected sex and not knowing ones HIV status. Since 2011, in partnership with the Office of Minority Health Resource #OMHRC, DPHSS STD/HIV Program #PrutehiHao, @LifeFoundation, & #APIAHF, #GALAGuam was able to conduct over 80 peer led outreaches in LGBT establishments, distributed over 15,000 condoms at Outreaches and community fairs, passed out over 12,000 resource materials to LGBT at risk to HIV/STD, and as of October 2013 #GALAGuam has administered close to 100 HIV rapid tests to LGBT at-risk who are hard to reach. Through these #prevention efforts and #communitypartnerships we as a #community can address the impact of HIV/AIDS on Guam by raising the #awareness getting #educated and being able to say #IKnowMyHIVStatus #TransformPrideIntoAction #Liveproud #GalaTrueLife

A post shared by [Gala Guam \(@galaguam\)](#) on May 18, 2015 at 5:46pm PDT

In comparison, Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders (NHOPI) account for even smaller proportion of the U.S. population than Asians—just 0.2%. In 2017, [according to the CDC](#), among all people diagnosed with HIV, 58 were adult or adolescent NHOPI, 46 were NHOPI men (mostly a result of male-to-male sexual contact) and 12 were NHOPI women (mostly a result of heterosexual contact). The good news is that from 2010 to 2016, HIV cases among NHOPI overall have decreased 16%.

Regarding prevention challenges among the NHOPI population, the CDC notes that “NHOPI cultural customs, such as not talking about sex across generations, may stigmatize sexuality in general, and homosexuality specifically, as well as interfere with HIV risk reduction strategies, such as condom use.”

The U.S. National Library of Medicine offers HIV-related resources for Asian and Pacific Islanders [here](#).

In related POZ news, check out “[Smart Insight About HIV and Hep B Among Asians and Pacific Islanders](#).”



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May 19 is National Asian & Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. It is a day to break the silence about HIV/AIDS in Asian and Pacific Islander communities and encourage individuals to get tested for HIV. This year's theme is "Love & Solidarity: Together PrEP, Testing and Treatment can end HIV." #LGBTHealth #NAPIHAAD #NationalAsianAndPacificIslanderHIVAIDSAwarenessDay #LoveAndSolidarity #PrEP #TasP #KnowYourStatus #HIVAIDSAwareness #HIVendsWithYou

A post shared by [Compass Community Center \(@compasscenter\)](#) on May 19, 2018 at 7:36am PDT