

National Caribbean-American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day 2016

June 8, 2016

Wednesday, June 8, marks National Caribbean-American HIV/AIDS Day ([NCAHAAD](#)) 2016, a project of the Caribbean People International Collective in partnership with national organizations and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The Caribbean region has the second-highest prevalence of HIV in the world, after sub-Saharan Africa. According to the U.S. Agency for International Development ([USAID](#)), about 250,000 people in the Caribbean are living with HIV, and in 2009, AIDS was the leading cause of death among 25- to 44-year-olds.

Because of the high rate of migration between the region and the United States, HIV remains a significant health challenge for many Caribbean-Americans. The awareness day is an attempt to educate this population with science-based information, empower people to fight stigma, encourage them to get tested and if found to be HIV positive to get connected to care.

June is [National Caribbean-American Heritage Month](#). Speaking about that occasion, President Obama said:

“The legacy of Caribbean-Americans is one of tenacity and drive; it reminds us that in America, with faith and determination, anything is possible. This month, let us honor the resilient heritage and rich history of Caribbean-Americans, and let us reflect upon the diversity of experiences that unites us as a people.”
