



EDDIE BAZA CALVO
GOVERNOR

RAY TENORIO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

MAY 19 2016



JAMES W. GILLAN
DIRECTOR

LEO G. CASIL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

PRESS RELEASE No. 2016-039

May 19th is National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

The Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) is pleased to announce that May 19th is National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. The 2016 theme for National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is "Saving face can't make you safe. Talk about HIV."

As the lead for this awareness day, the Banyan Tree Project is a national social marketing campaign aimed at stopping HIV/AIDS-related stigma (shame and judgement about HIV) in Asian and Pacific Islander communities through storytelling and education about stigma and how we are all affected by such stigma. Numerous resources about HIV/AIDS-stigma may be found on the Banyan Tree Project's website: www.banyantreeproject.org.

DPHSS encourages everyone to learn the facts about HIV, speak up and share stories to help end HIV/AIDS-related stigma on Guam. By reducing stigma through knowledge and action, we empower more people to get tested for HIV and receive crucial treatment, care and support services. In addition, DPHSS encourages the consistent and correct use condoms every time you have sex to prevent the transmission of HIV, STDs and Zika virus. The best way to avoid getting infected is to not have sex at all.

For more information about the National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day or STD/HIV testing services available on Guam, contact Mr. Vince J. Aguon at 735-7166 or visit the Prutehi Hao website: www.prutehihao.guam.gov. To stay abreast of current news and events, "Like" the Prutehi Hao Facebook page at www.facebook.com/prutehihao.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Gillan".

JAMES W. GILLAN
Director