



April 2017

Dear Community Partner:

This letter is a “Call for Partners” invitation for you to join with our two organizations and participate in the Long Island regional recognition of national **Mental Health Awareness Week**, from **Sunday, October 1, 2017** through **Saturday, October 7, 2017**.

With so many public health concerns surrounding us, it is as important as ever that we are join together in this effort because our collective community voices are jointly more powerful. So please consider partnering with us to help build awareness about mental health by offering a community event that impacts understanding of mental health issues and showcases the services and resources that your organization makes available. We will promote and secure media coverage of your event(s) – with the help of our www.MHAWeek.com website with an online events calendar – and provide materials for display and use throughout the Week.

Some ideas to consider are:

- Host a film screening and discussion (we have some films you might want to consider).
- Host an Open House or collaborative health fair for your community.
- Provide an educational seminar/demonstration on a mental health and wellness topic
- Host a recovery-themed art, music, or talent showcase.
- Provide free screening services for depression and anxiety.

We all know that stigma is a major barrier for many people who need mental healthcare. As a result, many avoid seeking the help they need. As always, our goal for Mental Health Awareness Week is to promote a broader understanding of all behavioral health topics through activities and events that can stimulate Island-wide community dialogues. It’s an invitation not only to those personally impacted by the challenges of mental health distress, trauma, and psychiatric disability but to all Long Islanders so people can better access the services that they, or a loved one, needs.

We hope that you will join us in this effort to help promote much-needed awareness of mental health, trauma, and recovery in our communities and across the Long Island region. Thank you for your consideration.

Please contact either of us with your questions and ideas.

Sincerely,

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