**** MEDIA ADVISORY





Contact:

Cub Barrett, AIDS Walk San Francisco cub.barrett@gmail.com

c: (917) 385-2422

THOUSANDS TO GATHER IN GOLDEN GATE PARK THIS SUNDAY, JULY 14 FOR AIDS WALK SAN FRANCISCO

Carson Kressley, ABC7's Dan Ashley, NCIS Los Angeles's Barrett Foa, the First Ladies of Disco, RuPaul's Drag Race star Monet X Change, and more will make appearances

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (July 8, 2019) – Thousands of people are expected to gather in Golden Gate Park at this Sunday's 33rd annual AIDS Walk San Francisco (AWSF) to support people living with HIV/AIDS, confront homelessness, help feed people in need, and protect the health and dignity of all members of the community.

The 10-kilometer Walk begins and ends in Golden Gate Park. ABC7 lead anchor **Dan Ashley** will host the Opening Ceremony in Robin Williams Meadow, where celebrities will include **Barrett Foa** (*NCIS Los Angeles*), Tony winner **John Lloyd Young** (*Jersey Boys*), **Ryan Jamaal Swain** (*Pose*), actress and activist **Meredith Baxter** (*Family Ties*), and more.

A Post-Walk Show, also in Robin Williams Meadow, will be held for all participants and will feature TV personality Carson Kressley (*RuPaul's Drag Race*) and performances by the First Ladies of Disco: Grammy winner Thelma Houston ("Don't Leave Me This Way"), two-time Grammy nominee Martha Wash ("It's Raining Men"), and Norma Jean Wright (formerly of CHIC, *Everybody Dance*); Dan Ashley; and Monet X Change (*RuPaul's Drag Race*). Participants who have raised \$200 or more will enjoy access to an exclusive VIP lounge, including posh front row seats and complimentary food, soft drinks, beer, and wine. Participants who have raised \$300 will get access to the VIP lounge for themselves, plus a guest.

The Premier Sponsor of AIDS Walk San Francisco 2019 is **Gilead**. The Walk's Grand Sponsors are **ABC7** and **Quest Diagnostics**. Principal Sponsors are **BIO-RAD**, **Chevron**, **ViiV Healthcare**, and **Wells Fargo**. Major sponsors include **Gap Inc.**, **Levi Strauss & Co.**, **SF Examiner**, and **SF Weekly**. Supporting Sponsors are **HP**, **MyHardBelly**, **Redwood Credit Union**, and **Williams-Sonoma**, **Inc.** Event Sponsors are **A Black Tie Affair**, **Golden 1 Credit Union**, **Merck**, **Recology**, and **Seyfarth Shaw LLP**. **Macy's** is the Aerobic Warm-Up and Finish Line Sponsor.

Since 1987, AWSF has raised more than \$90 million for a variety of Bay Area HIV/AIDS care, prevention services, and advocacy organizations and has long been Northern California's largest AIDS fundraising event. This year's Walk benefits **PRC**, **Project Open Hand**, and the **POP-UP Clinic at Ward 86**, as well as dozens of other Bay Area HIV/AIDS Service organizations.

Walk maps, key locations, and more information here: https://sf.aidswalk.net/Day-of-Event-Info

DETAILS:

WHAT:

33rd annual AIDS Walk San Francisco

WHERE:

Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA. (Day-of information and maps here: https://sf.aidswalk.net/Day-of-Event-Info)

WHEN:

Sunday, July 14, 2019

<u>Day-of schedule:</u>

8:00 a.m. Star Walker VIP Breakfast begins

8:30 a.m. Sign-In Opens

9:00 a.m. Media check-in (RSVP to Cub Barrett, listed above): All media can check in next to the

AIDS Walk stage in Robin Williams Meadow. Enter at Martin Luther King Drive off Kezar.

9:35 a.m. Macy's Aerobic Warm-Up

9:45 a.m. Opening Ceremony and Rally (at the stage in Robin Williams Meadow)

10:30 a.m. AIDS Walk San Francisco begins

12:00 p.m. Post-Walk Show and Finish Line festivities begin

WHO:

Thousands of participants are expected to attend. The landmark event benefits **PRC**, **Project Open Hand**, the **POP-UP Clinic at Ward 86**, and dozens of other local AIDS service organizations that provide HIV/AIDS care, prevention services, and advocacy throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.

Confirmed celebrity guests: **Carson Kressley** (*RuPaul's Drag Race*), **Barrett Foa** (*NCIS Los Angeles*), Tony Award winner **John Lloyd Young** (*Jersey Boys*), **Ryan Jamaal Swain** (*Pose*), ABC7 lead anchor **Dan Ashley**, actress and activist **Meredith Baxter** (*Family Ties*), and more.

Special performances: The **First Ladies of Disco**—Grammy winner **Thelma Houston** ("Don't Leave Me This Way"), two-time Grammy nominee **Martha Wash** ("It's Raining Men"), and **Norma Jean Wright** (formerly of CHIC, "Everybody Dance")—**Monet X Change** (*RuPaul's Drag Race*), and **Dan Ashley.**

MORE INFO:

For information about participating in or making a contribution to AIDS Walk San Francisco, please call 415.615.9255 (WALK), or visit <u>sf.aidswalk.net</u>. There is no registration fee.

###

About AIDS Walk San Francisco: Since 1987, AIDS Walk San Francisco has raised more than \$90 million for lifesaving HIV prevention, testing, and care programs and services, and has grown into the largest AIDS fundraising event in Northern California. AIDS Walk San Francisco has become a Bay Area tradition, bringing together tens of thousands of participants and volunteers; hundreds of corporate, community, and friends and family teams; and hundreds of thousands of donors from the Bay Area and across the country. This year's event benefits PRC, Project Open Hand, the POP-UP Clinic at Ward 86, and many other Bay Area AIDS service organizations, and is a project of ACRIA. The event was founded by Craig R. Miller and his organization of activists, MZA Events. For more information, visit sf.aidswalk.net.