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PRC and AIDS Walk San Francisco Foundation Announce Plans to Organize AIDS Walk SF 2020 as a Virtual Event on July 19

*The goal of the popular, decades-long event:
raise awareness and funds for HIV/AIDS and critical services*

SAN FRANCISCO (April 22, 2020) – [PRC](#) and [AIDS Walk San Francisco Foundation](#) announced today their decision to change **AIDS Walk San Francisco (AWSF 2020)** into an interactive, live streaming event. This change to the popular annual fundraiser is in response to the current COVID-19 pandemic. After reviewing plans closely with city health officials, organizers concluded that risks to the public outweighed the benefits of proceeding as usual with the live event in Golden Gate Park. This change was especially important since many participants have underlying health conditions. Although much of the planning associated with this change is still underway and will be announced shortly, the date of the event – July 19 – remains the same.



“The decision to reconstruct one of San Francisco’s most beloved events into a virtual one wasn’t easy to make,” said Brett Andrews, CEO of PRC. “The goals of AWSF 2020 are to raise awareness and funds that support HIV care and prevention services, as well as mental health, substance use, housing and other important social programs. Stemming from all the uncertainty surrounding the current healthcare crisis, we collectively decided to bring everyone together virtually this year. We’re excited to roll up our sleeves to create a new vision for the Bay Area’s largest single-day AIDS-related fundraiser.”

“For those who were part of the early response to the AIDS epidemic, the COVID-19 pandemic is at once unprecedented and strangely familiar,” said Craig Miller of MZA Events (producer of AWSF 2020) and founder of AIDS Walk San Francisco. “The funds raised through this event support thousands of San Francisco residents living with HIV/AIDS. This population is one that is also particularly susceptible to respiratory infections such as COVID-19, so we stand ready to support our friends and neighbors so directly imperiled by this health scare, as is our legacy.”

As the administrator of the AWSF 2020 Community Grants Program, PRC will announce the criteria and process for selecting co-benefitting organizations in the coming weeks.

AIDS Walk San Francisco 2020 Sponsors

The presenting sponsor for AWSF 2020 is Gilead. Other sponsors include Quest Diagnostics, Chevron, Gap Inc., Levi's, Williams-Sonoma, AmFar, Tito's Original Vodka and Wells Fargo. Media sponsors include KGO-TV ABC7 Bay Area and the San Francisco Chronicle.

What is AIDS Walk San Francisco?

AIDS Walk San Francisco generates funds to support local nonprofits providing a host of AIDS/HIV services, research and educational opportunities throughout the Bay Area. In 2019, thousands of AIDS Walk San Francisco participants – many of whom were members of hundreds of corporate and community teams – raised more than \$1.5M to support vital programs and services. The 2019 beneficiaries included [a wide variety of AIDS service organizations in the Bay Area](#).

Thousands of people come together each year to remember those who have been lost to the disease and to further efforts to find permanent health care solutions for those impacted by HIV/AIDS. As the disease has evolved over time, AIDS Walk San Francisco's response has required the community to broaden its approach with particular focus on aging, homelessness, mental health and substance use challenges amongst those who are diagnosed.

AIDS Walk San Francisco recognizes that no one organization can meet all the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. That is why the event emphasizes not one voice, but many voices; not just services in one city, but rather a Bay Area-wide effort to end the epidemic.

More details about the virtual AIDS Walk San Francisco 2020 event will be announced in the coming weeks. For further information, to sign up or to donate, please visit sf.aidswalk.net.

About PRC

PRC, a San Francisco-based nonprofit, helps people affected by HIV/AIDS, substance use or mental health issues better realize opportunities by providing integrated legal, social and health services that address the broad range of social risk factors that impact wellness and limit potential. In 2017, PRC merged with AIDS Emergency Fund, an emergency financial assistance provider for low-income residents disabled by HIV/AIDS, and Baker Places, an agency that provides a comprehensive array of residential treatment services to people with mental health, substance abuse and HIV/AIDS-related issues. Combined, the three organizations operate as PRC, represent a combined 115-year history of service and serve approximately 5,400 clients annually. For more information, please visit www.prcsf.org.

About AIDS Walk San Francisco (AWSF)

Since 1987, AIDS Walk San Francisco (AWSF) 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. Produced this year for the first time by PRC, the AIDS Walk San Francisco Foundation (the nonprofit organization overseeing AIDS Walk San Francisco) and MZA events (event producer), AWSF 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. For more information, to sign up or to donate, please visit sf.aidswalk.net.

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