

AIDS WALK: *LIVE AT HOME*

Expanding our reach. Extending our hearts.



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AIDS Walk: *Live at Home* Expands to Cities Across the Country

Campaign to culminate with a television broadcast and streaming simulcast
on Sunday, May 16

America's overdue reckoning on racism, bias, healthcare disparities unite and
invigorate AIDS Walks in six major cities.

Event will Fund Vital Services for People Most Vulnerable to
HIV and COVID-19.

NEW YORK and SAN FRANCISCO (March 26, 2021) — GMHC of New York City and the AIDS Walk San Francisco Foundation today announced that after their successful 2020 event, **AIDS Walk: *Live at Home***, this year, the culmination of their fundraising efforts will encompass all corners of the nation. Cities collaborating now include New Orleans, Austin, Milwaukee and Seattle in addition to New York and San Francisco. Funds raised will benefit GMHC, Vivent Health, AIDS Walk San Francisco Foundation, CrescentCare, and Lifelong.

With live segments planned, including Viewing Parties from New York's iconic Central Park Boathouse and the National AIDS Memorial Grove in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, **AIDS Walk: Live at Home** will be a moving and powerful experience, featuring superstar performances and appearances. Last year's participants included Bette Midler, Gloria Estefan, Patti LaBelle, Matt Bomer, Vanessa Williams, Laura Linney, Glenn Close, and Alan Cumming. This year **AIDS Walk: Live at Home** will be broadcast on ABC7/KGO-TV in San Francisco and streamed live on CBSN and aidswalk.net.

"**AIDS Walk: Live at Home** will reflect the strength and individual character of all six landmark events and the communities that embrace them year after year," said **Kelsey Louie, CEO of GMHC, Isaac Rodriguez of the AIDS Walk San Francisco Foundation, and Craig R. Miller, Founder of the AIDS Walks in New York and San Francisco among other cities.**

"Vivent Health is pleased to join with the nation's most visible HIV/AIDS fundraising events," said Michael Gifford, President and CEO at Vivent Health. "Through partnership with AIDS Walk Wisconsin and AIDS Walk Austin – both part of the Vivent Health family - we will connect in our shared goal to end HIV/AIDS and the racism, homophobia, sexism, stigma and poverty that perpetuate it."

"In Washington State and around the country, we continue to see Black, Latinx and Indigenous communities disproportionately impacted by new HIV cases," said Claire Neal, Lifelong CEO. "We are grateful for the nearly four decades of support from our community to deliver comprehensive care for our neighbors living with HIV and other serious illnesses and are excited to work hand-in-hand with like-minded organizations throughout the nation to spread awareness that racism remains a public health crisis for so many."

"This is a brilliant opportunity for us to participate in a wide-scale effort that brings attention to the HIV crisis that still looms in this country," said Noel Twilbeck, CEO of CrescentCare in New Orleans. "Together, our voices will be heard as one. With medical advances, access to high-quality health care, prevention education and community outreach, HIV eradication is within our grasp. It is up to each of us not to lose sight that we can and must end the HIV epidemic."

"The National AIDS Memorial stands together with **AIDS Walk: Live at Home** as communities from across the country come together to support such an important cause," said John Cunningham, the Memorial's Executive Director. "As our nation's only federally-designated memorial to AIDS and as stewards of the AIDS Quilt, we are honored to host this virtual **Live at Home** event in our beloved Memorial Grove with the backdrop of Quilt displays to serve as inspiration and hope to all the walkers and their sponsors."

"The AIDS Walk events in each of the participating cities have their own unique characteristics. But the clients we serve all face very similar challenges. It makes sense for us to come together as one community and to unite some of the nation's most powerful and effective AIDS fundraisers from all regions of the country," said Louie.

"In doing this work, we have been brought together by one pandemic even as we continue to fight another. The public's recent revelations about racism, bias and hate in America are in fact at the heart of what AIDS Walks have been working to expose, confront and change for decades," said Miller. "Who gets healthcare? How quickly? Whose needs are addressed? Who gets heard? We have long stood, walked and marched to oppose the racist, sexist, homophobic and transphobic disparities that persist in America and throughout our healthcare and criminal justice systems. Protecting people who have been singled out, harassed, scapegoated and underserved is what we do. It is our legacy and it remains our commitment."

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

WHAT: AIDS Walk: *Live at Home*

WHEN: Sunday, May 16, 2021

1:00 PM ET/ 12:00 PM CST/ 10:00 AM PST at aidswalk.net, CBSN and ABC7/KGO-TV in San Francisco

WHO: The virtual event benefits GMHC (New York), Vivent Health (Austin, Milwaukee), Lifelong (Seattle), CrescentCare (New Orleans), the AIDS Walk San Francisco Foundation and more than 45 other AIDS service organizations that provide HIV/AIDS care, prevention services, and advocacy throughout both New York's tri-state area and the San Francisco Bay Area.

RSVP FOR MEDIA: For interviews or to RSVP for **AIDS Walk: *Live at Home***, please contact Krishna Stone at krishnas@gmhc.org or (917) 774-3621 (New York inquiries).

MORE: For registration information or to donate to **AIDS Walk: *Live at Home***, please visit aidswalk.net. There is no registration fee.

About GMHC (formerly Gay Men's Health Crisis)

The world's first HIV/AIDS service organization provides comprehensive services to 10,000 people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS and COVID-19. Programs include testing, prevention, nutrition, legal, supportive housing, mental health, and substance use services. GMHC also advocates for stronger public policies at the local, state, and federal levels with the goal of ending HIV/AIDS. For more information, visit gmhc.org.

About AIDS WALK New York

AIDS Walk New York (AWNY) is the largest single-day AIDS fundraising event in the world. In its 35 years, the event has inspired nearly 890,000 people to walk and millions more to donate, raising nearly \$155 million to combat HIV and AIDS. The funds raised remain a vital lifeline sustaining the prevention, care, and advocacy programs GMHC provides for the thousands of people and families affected by HIV/AIDS in the tri-state area. The proceeds also benefit several HIV/AIDS service organizations that are able to participate as teams and raise funds through the Community Partnership Program (CPP). For more information, to sign up, or to donate, please visit ny.aidswalk.net.

About the AIDS Walk San Francisco Foundation

The AIDS Walk San Francisco Foundation recognizes that no one Bay Area 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 the Bay Area wide effort to bring this epidemic to an end. Through the Co-Beneficiary Teams Program, AIDS Walk San Francisco makes available a highly successful infrastructure to organize corporate and community involvement in the event. These organizations participate as fundraising teams in AIDS Walk San Francisco at no cost to themselves, and they keep a majority of the funds they raise.

About AIDS Walk San Francisco

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 California. AWSF has become a Bay Area tradition, bringing together tens of thousands of participants and volunteers; hundreds of corporate, community, and friends & family teams; as well as 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.

About Vivent Health

Vivent Health is a nationally recognized leader in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Vivent Health is best known for its high-quality HIV patient outcomes and operates the only HIV Medical Home in America recognized by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The HIV Medical Home model of care offers integrated health and social services including medical, dental, mental health and pharmacies, along with case management and social support. Vivent Health is also a leading provider of innovative and aggressive prevention services that help at-risk individuals remain HIV negative. Vivent Health operates in 15 locations in Colorado, Missouri, Texas and Wisconsin, and serves tens of thousands of people at-risk for HIV, and more than 10,000 patients each year. To learn more about Vivent Health go to viventhealth.org/.

About AIDS Walk Austin

Since its beginning in 1987, AIDS Walk Austin has raised more than \$7 million and has brought together thousands of people from the community to benefit 10 AIDS Service Organizations in Central Texas. This year walkers, sponsors and supporters will join together to create awareness, fight stigma and raise much-needed funds for HIV prevention and care services. Funds raised are critical in ensuring everyone with or at-risk for HIV has access to high-quality healthcare, regardless of their ability to pay. Funds raised help more people impacted by HIV in Central Texas thrive. For more information, to register or to donate, please visit aidswalk.net/austin.

About AIDS Walk Wisconsin

AIDS Walk Wisconsin & 5K Run is the largest HIV fundraising event in Wisconsin. Since its beginning in 1990, the walk/run has raised more than \$13.8 million and has united more than 135,000 walkers and volunteers in the fight against HIV/ AIDS. Funds raised support inclusive, integrated prevention, care and treatment services offered at the Vivent Health HIV Medical Home and are critical in ensuring everyone with or at-risk for HIV has access to high-quality healthcare, regardless of their ability to pay. Funds raised help more people impacted by HIV in Wisconsin thrive. AIDS Walk Wisconsin is proud to have Miller Lite as presenting sponsor, who has made great strides in the fight against HIV/AIDS with us over the past 32 years. For more information, to register or to donate, please visit aidswalk.net/wisconsin.

About Lifelong

Lifelong's services are still just as vital today as they ever were, with Black, Latinx and Indigenous communities disproportionately affected by new HIV cases. Lifelong's wraparound care model supports the whole person, looking at how nutritious food, stable housing, and access to care helps people living with HIV have the best chance at lifelong health.

About AIDS Walk Seattle

This year marks 35 years of the iconic Seattle AIDS Walk and the continued fight for health equity in the Pacific Northwest. Since its beginning in 1986, the event has brought together thousands of walkers and volunteers to raise vital funds for Lifelong's HIV care and prevention. For more information, to register or to donate, please visit aidswalk.net/seattle.

About CrescentCare

CrescentCare Health and Wellness Center offers affordable, accessible and patient-centered healthcare for all, with or without insurance. The center offers primary care for adults, children and families; specialized care for the lesbian, gay and bisexual community; behavioral health services; case management; HIV and STD services and support; infectious disease consultation; dental care; nutrition counseling; OB/GYN services; transgender care; medication assistance health education classes and employment counseling; and a PrEP clinic and Hepatitis C treatment program.

About the Walk to End HIV New Orleans:

The Walk to End HIV New Orleans is the largest HIV fundraiser in the Gulf South area for the past 31 years and has raised more than \$5 million for HIV services in the Greater New Orleans area. These funds are critical to the essential services of primary care, behavioral health, prevention and education services, nutritional care, medication disbursement, rapid treatment of HIV and PrEP/PEP (Pre-exposure prophylaxis/Post Exposure Prophylaxis) services for the nearly 3,000 clients we serve. Over the years, thousands of volunteers, clients and individual participants/donors along with corporate sponsor have made our events successful. For more information on the Walk to End HIV New Orleans or to sign up or donate, log on to aidswalk.net/new-orleans.

About MZA Events

AIDS Walk New York and AIDS Walk San Francisco were founded, in 1986 and 1987 respectively, by Craig R. Miller and his organization of activists, MZA Events. Miller and MZA have produced hundreds of public service campaigns and fundraising events, generating more than \$400 million for major AIDS organizations and other charities and social justice groups throughout the country. For more information, please visit mzaevents.com.

Leading Sponsors:

AIDS Walk New York's Presenting Sponsor is ViiV Healthcare; its Premier Sponsor Gilead; and its Principal Sponsors are Barclays, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Fiona and Stan Druckenmiller, Tito's Handmade Vodka and the Keith Haring Foundation, Inc.

AIDS Walk Wisconsin's Presenting Sponsor is Miller Lite.

Walk to END HIV New Orleans's Presenting Sponsor is Chevron.

AIDS Walk San Francisco's Presenting Sponsor is Gilead; its Principal Sponsors are Chevron, Quest Diagnostics, and ViiV Healthcare.

Media Sponsor: KGO TV (ABC – San Francisco)