



Raising Over \$901K for HIV Services

AIDS Walk San Francisco has supported community groups since 1987.

September 22, 2025 By Laura Schmidt

Thousands of people living with HIV and their friends and family members showed their support and raised money for HIV and AIDS organizations in the Bay Area at this year's [AIDS Walk San Francisco](#).

AIDS Walk SF returned to Golden Gate Park Sunday, July 20, in support of 18 co-benefiting organizations, including the University of California, San Francisco, Rainbow Community Center and Rafiki Coalition for Health and Wellness. At last count, this year's 5K walk, sponsored by Gilead Sciences, had raised \$901,288.

Since 1987, AIDS Walk San Francisco has inspired countless Bay Area residents to walk, volunteer and donate to fight HIV and AIDS. In total, the annual walk has raised more than \$96 million for organizations across seven Bay Area counties.

In the wake of the Trump administration's budget cuts impacting HIV and AIDS research and care, AIDS Walk SF director Bert Champagne reemphasized the purpose of the walk: to support and fund local community organizations that provide HIV services and fund other crucial operations.

"Unrestricted funds are so important to smaller organizations because sometimes it's just getting somebody a vet visit for their emotional support animal," Champagne said, according to Local News Matters. "It may be legal advice for somebody that has to do their last will and testament because they're HIV positive and the doctor gave them bad news. These are funds for things government grants won't cover."

California State Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco), a gay man who has championed access to pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV and related legislation, echoed Champagne's message.

"We're at a point now where we know how to end this public health disaster," he said. "We know

how to keep people living with HIV healthy. We know how to end HIV transmission. Now, we have another challenge: We have another government that doesn't care about us. It doesn't care if people die. A government that is restricting access to health care, which is how you fuel HIV."

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