



AIDS Run & Walk Chicago Nears

Cast members from Chicago's "Wicked" and "Jersey Boys" among those welcoming participants

Chicago, IL - The 2008 AIDS Run & Walk Chicago is just around the corner: Saturday, September 20, at Columbus and Balbo in Grant Park. Proceeds benefit the grant-making programs of the AIDS Foundation of Chicago.

U.S. Congressman Danny Davis, as the run/walk's honorary chair, will be a guest speaker. And cast members from Chicago's "Wicked" and "Jersey Boys" will be among those welcoming participants. (They've even formed an AIDS Run/Walk Chicago team: "Wicked Jersey Boys for Season of Concern.")

In addition, scheduled to perform at the event are Chicago's FootworkINGz, Chicago Dance Crash, DanceWorks Chicago, New York drag star Sherry Vine, the Chicago Spirit Brigade, DJ Casper and ROTC (Righteously Outrageous Twirling Corps). And personal trainers from Bally Total Fitness will be on hand to help warm up the crowd.

Individuals and teams of five or more are encouraged to sign up for the event, one of the city's most high-profile fundraisers to combat HIV/AIDS. The run starts at 9:55 a.m.; the walk at 10:00 a.m.

To facilitate the fundraising process, it's not too late for individuals and teams to create personal fundraising pages at the event's website (www.aidsrunwalk.org) where friends, family and co-workers can make pledges.

In addition to a 5K run and walk, the event will also feature a "Health & Fitness Village," sponsored by the Illinois Department of Public Health. The village will feature product samplings, service demonstrations and information about HIV/AIDS-related services and volunteer opportunities with local AIDS service providers and other organizations.

Since it was established in 2001, AIDS Run & Walk Chicago has netted more than \$1.3 million to battle the epidemic. Registration cost is \$25 in advance; \$30 on-site. For more information visit www.aidsrunwalk.org or call 312.334.0946.