



AIDS RESOURCE CENTER OF WISCONSIN

*Excellence in HIV Health Care*



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## ***AIDS Walk Wisconsin & 5K Run 2017 Announces Jane Lynch as Honorary Chair***

MILWAUKEE, WI. May 30, 2017 - The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) is pleased to announce award winning actress and singer Jane Lynch will be Honorary Chair of the 28th annual AIDS Walk Wisconsin & 5K Run. The event will take place on Saturday, October 7th at the Summerfest Grounds.

"I am proud to join the impressive history of celebrity chairs of this great event. But what excites me even more is the chance to help our friends and neighbors in the fight against AIDS in Wisconsin," said Lynch. "I hope that my role as Honorary Chair brings visibility to the fact that this sort of event is still needed. There's great risk, it seems to me, when the fight against HIV grows increasingly invisible."

"Jane Lynch has spent much time outside of her career encouraging leadership and rewarding people who give back. We are excited to add Honorary Chair to her list of titles." said ARCW President and Chief Executive Officer Mike Gifford.

Lynch is well known for the role as the cheerleading coach Sue Sylvester in the hit television show *Glee* and currently as the television host of *Hollywood Game Night*. Lynch, a Midwesterner, spent 15 years of her early career in Chicago acting in the Steppenwolf Theatre Company, and *The Second City*. Her stage work led her to film work and led audiences to hilarious characters from the Christopher Guest movies *Best In Show* to *A Mighty Wind*, *The 40-Year-Old Virgin* and *Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby* to name a few. However, it was her role as Julia Child's sister in *Julie and Julia* that triggered *Entertainment Weekly* to dedicate an article to the possibility of recognizing Jane Lynch with an Academy Award nomination. She made her Broadway debut as Miss Hannigan in the revival of *Annie* in 2013.

Lynch has served as host of VH1's *DoSomething Awards*, which celebrated and encouraged young people to become active citizens and leaders while also making community involvement fun. Lynch has sponsored animal adoption events in California. She received an Honorary Doctorate in Fine Arts in 2012 from Smith College.

Over the past 27 years, more than 126,000 registrants have participated in AIDS Walk Wisconsin raising more than \$12.7 million. One hundred percent of the pledges raised from AIDS Walk Wisconsin stayed in Wisconsin to benefit people living with HIV in the state.

"The demands of the AIDS epidemic are at an all time high," said Gifford. "More people than ever before are living with HIV in our state and many of them are confronting this expensive disease while living in deep poverty and increased economic uncertainty. AIDS Walk Wisconsin and 5K Run shows our patients that our participants, our core of fund raisers, continue to make the difference in their lives so they have somewhere to turn to for care and treatment to live long and healthy lives with HIV."

The walk is free, and there is a \$30 registration fee for the 5K run. Registrants who raise pledges will win exciting prizes. Those who wish to participate can register online at [aidswalkwis.org](http://aidswalkwis.org) or over the phone at 800.348.WALK(9255).

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## Past Honorary Chairs of AIDS Walk Wisconsin

Broadway, Television and Film Star Taye Diggs, 2016  
‘NSYNC Star Lance Bass and Husband Michael Turchin, 2015  
TV Fashion Guru Tim Gunn, 2014  
Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Tourism Stephanie Klett, 2013  
Milwaukee Brewer and National League MVP Ryan Braun, 2012  
Green Bay Packer Linebacker and World Champion Clay Matthews, 2011  
Wisconsin Indie Rock Sensation Bon Iver, 2009  
Tony Award winning actor BD Wong, 2006  
Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett & Kris Barrett, 2005  
Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle & First Lady Jessica Doyle, 2003  
Actor Bill Brochtrup, 2002  
R&B singer/songwriter Eric Benet, 2001  
Six-Time Olympic Champion Jackie Joyner-Kersey, 2000  
Actor, film director and political activist Danny Glover, 1999  
Advocate Chastity Bono, 1998  
Four-Time Olympic Champion Greg Louganis, 1997  
Award winning actress, comedian, singer/songwriter Bette Midler, 1996  
Vice President Al Gore & Tipper Gore, 1995  
Milwaukee Brewer Outfielder Darryl Hamilton, 1994  
Earvin “Magic” Johnson and Milwaukee Bucks Coach Mike Dunleavy, 1993  
Milwaukee Brewer & Baseball Hall of Famer Paul and Linda Molitor, 1992  
Bud and Sue Selig of the Milwaukee Brewers, 1991  
Milwaukee Mayor John O. Norquist and Susan Mudd, 1990

AIDS Walk Wisconsin is produced by the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW). ARCW is home to the ARCW Medical Center – Wisconsin’s largest and fastest growing HIV health care system. Through its integrated medical, dental and mental health clinics along with its pharmacy and dedicated social services that include food pantries, a legal program, housing support and social work case management, 3,500 HIV patients in Wisconsin gain the health care and social services they need for long-term survival with HIV disease from ARCW.

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