

AIDS PROJECT RHODE ISLAND

A program of Family Service of Rhode Island

www.AIDSprojectRl.org



## About AIDS Project Rhode Island

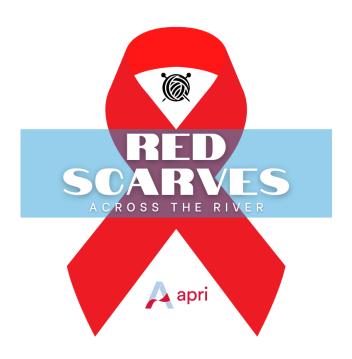
The AIDS Walk for Life was started by AIDS Project Rhode Island, which is a program of Family Service of Rhode Island, in the mid-1980s—part of a wave of grassroots fundraisers held across the country that raised money to help provide care and support to individuals suffering during the early days of the AIDS epidemic. At the time many people had no insurance, access to services, or were dying alone because their families had rejected them.

In the more than 30 years since the first AIDS Walk for Life, we have made great strides in the fight against HIV, and now, thanks to advances in medication, people with HIV are living longer, healthier lives.

That does not mean, however, that HIV and AIDS have gone away. The virus continues to affect more than 1 million people in the country, and there is still is no cure for HIV. Every year, more than 30,000 people in the U.S. get HIV, and continued stigma against people living with the virus, gaps in education, and lack of connection to care and support services present big challenges.

On June 26th, 2022 at 9 AM, we will kick off our "True Colors" Run/Walk for Life, which raises critical funds to support the health and well-being of ALL Rhode Islanders and combats stigma experienced by our friends and neighbors identifying as LGBTQIA+. Our partners at RunRhody and we will host this fantastic certified 5K run/walk in downtown Providence, where hundreds of racers and participants can wear rainbow colors to celebrate health and life, and well-being.

Information about the running course, logistics, and supporters can be found at www.AIDSProjectRI/RunforLife.



## A Proposed Public Art Installation for World AIDS Day

The Red Scarves Across the River project seeks to create a crowdsourced, temporary, public, visual symbol of the connection we all share with those living with and affected by HIV/AIDS, by using a variation on the red ribbon symbol representing HIV/AIDS awareness on World AIDS Day. This project aims to start a creative dialogue between APRI and the community at large, in a way that is distanced, engaging, educational, and grassroots.

To honor those in our community that we've lost, and support those currently living with and affected by HIV/AIDS in Rhode Island on World AIDS Day (December 1, 2021), we'd like to invite the community at large to knit, make, or donate-- and then symbolically place-- red scarves on the PVD Pedestrian Bridge to be on display for one week.

We have a goal of placing 1748 (or more) scarves to signify those lost in Rhode Island to the HIV/AIDS epidemic since 1983. This art installation serves as a visual reminder of those lost and provides a distanced way for our community to come together in a show of support in a safe, impactful way. At the conclusion of the week, all scarves will be removed and donated to area organizations for distribution.



## Sponsorship Opportunities

	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$1,000	\$500
<ul> <li>Opportunity to speak and present at the Run/Walk for Life in June 2022</li> </ul>					
<ul> <li>Opportunity to provide branded materials in APRI at- home HIV testing kit mailers</li> </ul>					
<ul> <li>Opportunity to have a featured story in APRI newsletter</li> </ul>			• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	•	
<ul> <li>Recognition during virtual program on World AIDS Day</li> </ul>			0 0 0 0	•	
<ul> <li>Logo placement* on event T-shirts</li> </ul>				•	
<ul> <li>Mentioned as APRI partner in all press releases through June 2022</li> </ul>					
<ul> <li>Social media recognition of your organization on APRI platforms</li> </ul>					
<ul> <li>Logo placement* on APRI website through June 2022</li> </ul>				0	
<ul> <li>Logo placement* on all event materials through June 2022</li> </ul>					
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## Honoring J. Philip Kane

J. Philip Kane recently retired from Thundermist Health Center in July 2021. He initially joined the staff of Thundermist in July 2004 in the role of outreach worker. The following year he was promoted to the Ryan White Program Manager and served in that position for the last sixteen years.

Philip has worked in the field of HIV prevention services and care for over 35 years. His interest in HIV began in 1987 when he first volunteered at AIDS Project Rhode Island (the Project) as an AIDS Hotline volunteer and a buddy. The following year as the Project was expanding, he was hired as the Rhode Island AIDS Hotline Coordinator and was eventually promoted to the position of Education Coordinator. After leaving the Project in 2000, he joined the staff of Planned Parenthood of Rhode Island, where he coordinated marketing and communications for the organization.

Philip currently serves as the facilitator for the Rhode Island HIV Care and Prevention Planning Group. Over his career, he has conducted HIV and Hepatitis trainings for a number of community-based organizations including the Providence Center and the Substance Use and Mental Health Leadership Council of Rhode Island. Philip is a former member of the Rhode Island Community Planning Group for HIV Prevention and served as its Community Co-Chair for 5 years.

Philip is a native of Newport, Rhode Island. He currently lives in the Elmwood neighborhood of Providence with his husband, Daniel Fournier.



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