

NATIONAL PHILOPTOCHOS

Hits the Streets

Nationwide HIV/AIDS 5K Walkathon

May 2009

OVERVIEW

In keeping with the philanthropic ministry of the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society, which states that we bring healing to the sick, embrace those with any kind of affliction, necessity or distress and assist in the care of orphans, National Philoptochos is sponsoring an HIV/AIDS Walkathon in May 2009. We ask all Chapters nationwide to host this event within their parish and community in order to raise funds in support of HIV/AIDS in the United States and in Ethiopia.

AIDS was once perceived in the United States as a disease that was isolated in a particular set of communities or population. Today, HIV/AIDS has become epidemic – prevalent, widespread and common. Despite the tremendous successes of HIV prevention efforts in the United States and the many treatment advances, AIDS continues to devastate the lives of our young, our neighbors, co-workers and friends.

It is estimated that there are now well over one million persons living with HIV/AIDS in the United States. AIDS has now become deeply embedded within issues of poverty, class, race/ethnicity and drug users. In these areas, the need is very great and the funds are scarce and dwindling.

In the United States, monies raised by the Walkathon will be distributed to the National AIDS Fund, whose purpose is to reach out on the national level and direct funds for services to these very people who are most in need, where unfortunately, services would otherwise not exist.

In Ethiopia, the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, in partnership with IOCC, has been involved in the care and support of AIDS orphans. Funds distributed in Ethiopia through IOCC will specifically target assistance to the estimated 1,800,000 AIDS orphans living there. These funds will allow for the expansion of existing HIV/AIDS programs and will target projects that have not typically been supported by previous grants from the U.S. government.

We ask all Chapters to enthusiastically support this Nationwide Walkathon and to wholeheartedly cooperate to make this Walkathon monetarily successful so that all our Chapters, our clergy, parishes, Parish Councils, friends and neighbors join in this monumental effort to raise funds for the National Philoptochos HIV/AIDS Walkathon.

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PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION FORM

PURPOSE

To assist with the care of 1,800,000 AIDS orphans in Ethiopia through the International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) and the Ethiopian Orthodox Church
To assist the National AIDS Fund through its 400 service organizations in the United States to provide services to those most in need

FUNDS WILL BE RAISED IN THREE WAYS:

- Individual Participant Entrance Fees
- Participant and Team Sponsor pledges
- Matching Funds

PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION INFORMATION

NAME:
ADDRESS:
CITY/STATE:
PHONE NUMBER/EMAIL:
TEAM NAME (If applicable):
ENTRANCE FEE LEVEL:
TOTAL SPONSORING PLEDGES/MATCHING FUNDS

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SPONSOR PLEDGE FORM

	Name	\$10	\$25	\$50	Other Amount Matching Funds	Amount Payment Received
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						

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DID YOU KNOW?

25 years after the first case of the HIV/AIDS was reported, it has become the deadliest epidemic in human history, killing over 25 million people worldwide, including 500,000 Americans.

More than 1 million people are living with the HIV/AIDS virus in the United States.

In the last decade, major advances in prevention and treatment have prolonged and improved the lives of many, but despite this, the epidemic is far from over.

HIV can be transmitted through blood transfusions or blood products infected with HIV.

HIV can be transmitted to a fetus or an infant, exposed to HIV through parents, either before or during birth or through breast-feeding.

In Ethiopia, experts believe that approximately 3 – 5 million Ethiopians currently are HIV positive, including 200,000 children. By 2010, it is estimated the numbers will rise to 7 – 10 million.

There are 1,800,000 AIDS orphans living in Ethiopia.

The generally poor health of Ethiopians is a result of drought; malnutrition and very limited healthcare and other infectious diseases that have caused HIV to progress rapidly to AIDS.

Prevention and education are the key components to stopping the spread of the deadly HIV virus.

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TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL EVENT

Chapter/Parish:

ADVERTISE

1. Complete "Event Details" on the flyer(s)
 - a. Chapter/Parish Name
 - b. Date
 - c. Location
 - d. Registration/Entrance Fee
 - e. Event Coordinator name and contact information
2. Post flyer(s) in prominent locations
3. Send press release about event to local newspapers, Cable, TV

ORGANIZE EVENT

1. Hold Orientation Meeting(s)
2. Establish Fund Goal
3. Distribute Forms
4. Solicit participants and participant teams
5. Establish communication system for all participants

PARTICIPANTS

1. Raise Sponsor Pledges
2. Sponsor yourself - Be the first to make contribution on pledge form
3. Ask one person each day to sponsor you
4. Collect your pledges at the time your donor agrees to contribute
5. Email friends, family, co-workers and neighbors asking them to sponsor you
6. Double your dollars. Ask your company about its matching gift program
7. Walk in honor of someone or for a charity or important cause.
8. Join or form a team as an important part of fundraising
9. Create excitement and Build Team Spirit as you raise funds

TIPS FOR BUILDING A SUCCESSFUL TEAM

1. Begin soliciting participants
2. Contact everyone you know in every facet of your life: family, friends, co-workers, church members, social organizations, athletic teams and on and on.
3. Set a Team Fundraising Goal
4. Adopt team colors, create a team banner or flag or make team "T" shirts for the day of the event
5. Stay connected with your Team members by email or telephone
6. Establish a meeting time and location for your team on the day of the event
7. List all team members on the Team Roster
8. Submit Entrance Fee for each team member
9. Each team member collects his or her sponsor pledges