



AIDS Walk Los Angeles supports four key elements of APLA Health's mission to create health equity for all communities. Here are some valuable talking points you can use to demonstrate why AIDS Walk is so beneficial to the overall success of APLA Health:

- End the epidemic
- Know your status
- Older adult support
- Support for underserved communities

**VERSION 1.0** 

# End the epidemic



We've come a long way in our fight to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic, but we're not done yet. AIDS Walk LA raises awareness for APLA Health's wellness services while reducing the stigma surrounding the HIV/AIDS virus.



APLA Health offers free treatment options such as PrEP and PEP that greatly reduce the chances of contracting the HIV/AIDS virus. They are making these services more readily available and increasing awareness about their effectiveness.



Ending the epidemic is about more than just focusing on HIV/AIDS. **APLA Health offers vital** services including housing support, food pantries, dental care and insurance enrollment that promote wellness in all facets of life.



California's 2019 budget included limited investments in ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic. A mere one-fourth of the requested \$60 million was allocated for HIV/AIDS and STD prevention and an end the epidemic task force. AIDS Walk is an opportunity to make up for what the government failed to provide.

### **Know your status**



Individuals who are unaware of their HIV-positive status account for one-third of all new HIV/AIDS infections in LA County. **APLA Health offers free HIV screenings to make sure** everyone knows their status.



Knowing your status is crucial to achieving the goal of 90% viral suppression in LA County. **APLA** Health improves outcomes for those living with HIV/AIDS and offers services that greatly reduce the rate of new infections, such as PrEP and PEP.



APLA Health communicates the concept of U=U with all of its patients. U=U is short for Undetectable=Untransmittable, meaning an individual who has suppressed the virus cannot pass it on to others. This medically-verified campaign greatly reduces fear and stigma around HIV/AIDS.

# **Older adult support**



Older adults living with HIV/AIDS may often feel left behind as the fight against the epidemic moves to a younger generation. However, the number of older adults living with the virus is increasing. APLA Health offers services to meet this group's unique challenges.



APLA Health's HIVE Program (HIV-Elders) is a free program for MSM over 50 living with HIV. HIVE reduces stigma and promotes community through discussion groups, life skills support and health education.

# Support for underserved communities



#### The APLA Health Government Affairs team works at all levels of government to advance LGBTQ+ and and social justice initiatives, reduce health care disparities,

advocate for HIV/AIDS health care policy, and communicate with underserved populations.



APLA Health advocates for strengthening and expanding the network of **federally qualified health centers** providing primary care, behavioral health, dental care, and prevention and education services to low-income individuals across all populations.



APLA Health clinics are strategically located in areas where we can provide the greatest access to underserved communities, including West Hollywood, La Brea, Koreatown and Olympic.



The NOLP is the nation's largest food pantry for those living with HIV/AIDS and offers bilingual nutritional counseling as well as access to fresh meat and produce and hygiene items/cleaning supplies.

# Support for underserved communities



**Transgender** individuals are **3 times** more likely to receive a new HIV/AIDS diagnosis than the national average.

The HIV/AIDS prevalence rate among Hispanic and Latinx populations is **3 times** that of the white population. Hispanics are also **4 times** as likely to live in poverty areas.

