



## 2017 AIDS Walk Delaware: Sept. 23

Save the date for the largest fundraiser for HIV/AIDS in Delaware – AIDS Walk Delaware – scheduled for Saturday, September 23, 2017. Now in its thirty-first first year, AIDS Walk Delaware was one of the first walkathons to raise money and awareness in Delaware. The Walk takes place in two locations: Dravo Plaza at Riverfront Wilmington, and Grove Park in Rehoboth Beach.



Launch of the Walk website! [AIDSWalkDelaware.org](http://AIDSWalkDelaware.org) is now open for team captains, walkers, and volunteers to register. Although the Walk doesn't take place until September, summertime fundraising accounts for 20 percent of funds raised. Our goal this year is \$125,000.

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## Project SPARK

If you are living with HIV/AIDS *and* use alcohol and/or drugs, you may be eligible to participate in a new federally-funded project.

- Eligible individuals that agree to participate will receive up to \$40 for participation. (\$20 Gift Card for completing a brief in-person initial interview + \$20 Gift Card for completing a brief telephone follow-up interview)
- Half of those that agree to participate will receive a one-time 20-30 minute motivational interviewing session for free.

To find out more about this study and if you would be eligible to participate, please call **302-654-5471** and ask to speak with [Raphia](#).

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## Housing for More Delawareans with HIV/AIDS

The FY2018 Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) grants from the City of Wilmington and Delaware State Housing Authority exceeded our expectations. The City contract increased by almost 4% while the DSHA award increased by nearly 14%. Once we received this good news, we moved 22 clients off the housing program waiting list. These clients will be offered the opportunity to begin receiving rental assistance in the coming months. In other recent funding news, we have begun using the Consortium's 340B funds to support the housing program. Since April 2017, we have assisted 20 households, including six families, using these funds. We are also seeking private funds for the housing program. In June, we submitted a grant request to the MAC AIDS Fund that, if funded, would provide an added service within the housing program with a goal of promoting timely transitions from the program to other suitable housing options in the community. Funding decisions will be announced in October.

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## Revised Testing Schedule

We are excited to announce a new testing site -- Walgreen's newest location at 1201 N. Market Street, Wilmington. HIV Testing is provided by The Consortium at three Walgreens locations in Wilmington:

- 2121 Kirkwood Hwy. – Tuesdays, 12:30 - 4:30 pm
- 839 N. Market Street – Wednesdays, 12:30 - 4:30 pm
- 1201 N. Market Street – Thursdays, 12:30 - 4:30 pm

Testing is also available at Consortium offices, 100 W. 10th Street, Suite 415, Wilmington, by calling 302-654-5471, Monday-Thursday, 8:15-4:30 pm and Friday, 8:30-1:30 pm. Also new, DHC and Walgreens are now offering both **HIV and Hepatitis C** testing at all three locations! [More information on testing](#).

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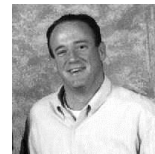
## HPC Consumer Survey

The Delaware HIV Planning Council (HPC), the state's joint HIV prevention and care community planning group, is once again in the process of carrying out a consumer survey as a part of its five-year HIV planning cycle. The survey will ask respondents how important the state's individual HIV services are for improving their overall health, if they have been able to access all of the services that they need, and what personal and social barriers have hindered their access needed services. The information collected in the consumer survey will be used by the Division of Public Health and AIDS Service Organizations statewide to improve the quality of HIV services to better meet the needs of persons living with HIV. All persons living with HIV in Delaware are welcome to complete the consumer survey; it will be located at all HIV case management agencies in Delaware, as well as many HIV health care provider locations, and [online](#). This is the first time since 2006 that the Delaware HIV Consortium has completed an HIV consumer survey.

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## Michael Brossette Memorial Fund

The Michael Brossette Memorial Fund (MBMF) was established by the Delaware HIV Consortium in September 2000 in memory of former Board of Trustees president and member Michael Brossette. Originally funded by memorial contributions by the Brossette Family and friends, the MBMF provides small grants to assist people in Southern Delaware with HIV/AIDS who are experiencing financial hardship and who do not generally qualify for other private, public or governmental programs. MBMF helps people who might otherwise "fall through the cracks" by offering resources, including financial assistance and information about services.



*Michael Brossette*

The MBMF does more than simply pay a bill for someone. It is a source of help for the immediate situation and yet provides an introduction to other available services for future use. Some examples of expenses that might be covered by MBMF include:

- Security deposits and application fees for housing
- Assistance with an outstanding power bill
- An outstanding bill for medical services not covered by other funding
- Co-pays for prescriptions

The program may provide up to \$500 in assistance per applicant. If the applicant's need is greater than that, Consortium representatives may refer that applicant to other financial assistance programs for help. The MBMF is only available to people living with HIV/AIDS in Kent and Sussex County, because of the availability of other financial assistance in New Castle County.

Although originally funded by memorial contributions, long-since depleted, the MBMF is completely funded by private contributions, fundraising activities, and grant funding, including a generous grant from [Broadway Care/Equity Fights AIDS](#). You can help support the MBMF by clicking [HERE](#).

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## Personal Care Items Closet and how you can support it

The Delaware HIV Consortium began offering a Personal Care Items Closet to its case management clients in 2014. This closet features bath soap, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, skin lotion, and – sometimes – household cleaning supplies. What started as sporadic donations by staff and Consortium supporters quickly grew to include all Ryan White Care Act clients statewide. The Consortium now actively seeks donations, grants, and has committed fundraising dollars to support this important service that helps improve the quality of life for the people we serve, many who are living below the poverty line. [Donate now](#).

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## Make purchases through Amazon Smile and support DHC!

If you're frequent Amazon shopper, you can enroll in their Amazon Smile program and every time you make a purchase, Amazon will make a donation – a percentage of your purchase – to the Consortium. Sign up here: [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com).

**Save the Date:** The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual WOW Awards Gala, Friday, April 27, 6:30 – 11 pm, Hockessin Memorial Hall, Hockessin, DE