

**MEDIA RELEASE: Walk for AIDS – A small WALK goes a long way**

For immediate release, 17 November 2009

**The AIDS Council of South Australia Inc.**

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<http://www.redribbon.org.au>

Contact: Shane Dinnison, Executive Director



**a small WALK goes a long way!**

South Australia's community based HIV organisations have joined forces to host the Walk for AIDS in 2009. This joint event will be held on Sunday 22 November at the beginning of AIDS Awareness Week and in the lead up to World AIDS Day (Tuesday 1 December), to raise money for men, women and children living with HIV.

Proudly supported by Glyde Health, the Walk for AIDS is a two kilometre course through the stunning Botanic Gardens in Adelaide, beginning and ending at the Friends Gate in Botanic Park, starting at 10am and running through until midday.

*"We're encouraging as many people to join us walking through Adelaide's iconic gardens in celebration of life and as a timely reminder of the devastating impact that HIV has had on many people in SA,"*

said Shane Dinnison, Executive Director of the AIDS Council of SA.

*"It will be a visual symbol of support for people directly disadvantaged by this chronic illness, many of whom live in poverty."*

The Walk for AIDS is inviting people to sign up their friends or local groups too, whether it's a sports or singing group, cultural or social organisation.

*"It's a fun day and a great way to get together and collectively show your support,"* added Shane. *"This is our first walk and we hope to build on the support generated by our community in the coming years"*



The AIDS Council of South Australia Inc.  
Our vision is **A FUTURE FREE OF HIV**

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*"We've got information for people on HIV and sexual health, as well as refreshments and sunscreen to keep our walkers hydrated and sun-protected,"*

*"Thanks to the generous support of our sponsors, walkers will finish with a healthy brunch."*

Katherine Leane, Vice President of PLWHA-SA said:

*"HIV isn't going away. There are now more people living with HIV than at any other time and with greater life expectancy. As the number of those living with HIV continues to grow, so do the challenges. It is estimated almost 17,500 people are now living with HIV in Australia 1,000 of whom live in SA.*

*"The Walk for AIDS allows the community to physically show their support by walking or donating money towards this event. We're hoping we can send a strong message to those living with and affected by HIV and the wider community that people care!"*

**/Ends/**

**MEDIA:**

**For interviews, please contact Amanda Griffiths-Osei, AYA Consulting 0417 391 207**

Date: Sunday 22nd November 2009

Time: 10am

Location: Friends Gate Botanic Park

Cost: \$20, with all proceeds going towards assisting people living with HIV

Registration: [www.redribbon.org.au/events.html](http://www.redribbon.org.au/events.html) or on the day



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