



preventing homelessness  
& hunger since 1983

# Connections

Aid for AIDS Community E-Newsletter

August 2007

www.aidforaids.net

## Best In Drag Show 2007 Tickets, On Sale Now!



Summer is coming close to an end, which means we at Aid For AIDS are busy gearing up for our biggest fundraiser of the year - the legendary Best in Drag Show. It is taking place on October 14<sup>th</sup> at The Orpheum Theater in Downtown LA. With a 1,900 seating capacity, the fierce but hilarious "beauty contest" is bigger than ever. As always, **Kathy Griffin**, Hollywood's favorite "D-List Celebrity," is set to open the show, with to-be-announced celebrities judging their favorite contestants based on talent, bathing suit, evening wear, and Q&A categories.

Tickets went on sale this week and are quickly being scooped-up, but don't worry, they aren't sold out yet! To download the ticket order form, [click here](#). To see pictures from last year's show, [click here](#).

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## How You've Helped Us Help Others

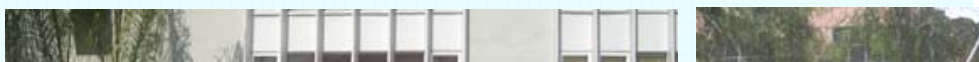
Last year we assisted **3,550 households** - providing emergency support for those impoverished and fighting HIV/AIDS. Through a combination of programs, we help those remain in their homes or handle a move, if necessary, in times of crisis; acquire nutritional supplements, vitamins and some non-prescription medications for improved well-being; prevent hunger and poor nutrition with free home-delivered fresh foods directly from our food distributor, Albertsons; reach appointments and stores with bus passes.

*"I am so grateful to Aid For AIDS... I received move-in grants and rent assistance...With financial security and a place to live, I was able to function normally. And with the peace of mind AFA gave me, my emotional health greatly improved, which in turn strengthened my physical health." - AFA client Mike Hennessy*

We continue to have cross-collaborations with many related organizations throughout Los Angeles County. The critical assistance provided by Aid For AIDS is through the financial support of donors, grants, and fundraising events. Your value as an individual supporter is immense. You remain integral to Aid For AIDS' ability to make a vital difference in the lives of so many on that fragile edge created by HIV/AIDS and poverty.

## Aid For AIDS' Marches in LA Pride Parade

This June, the annual LA Pride Parade was held in West Hollywood. Aid For AIDS staff members, and a number of scantily clad, buff volunteers, strutted their stuff down Santa Monica Blvd., while team members from **Cheer LA** flipped, cart-wheeled and cheered to encourage parade crowds to donate to Aid For AIDS. The 2006 Best in Drag Show winner, **Cookie D'eau - Miss Pennsylvania**, gracefully greeted the crowd in Aid For AIDS' 2007 Saturn SKY Convertible, loaned by GM. Thanks so much to Cheer LA, our volunteers, and all those who donated. We raised over \$1,400 with your help!



## Spa Day, Thursday, November 8



Help others by indulging yourself in luxurious spa and salon treatments on Spa Day, November 8<sup>th</sup> - a one-day pamper yourself fundraising event benefiting individuals and families living with HIV/AIDS. Spas in Northern California, Southern California, Las Vegas, Arizona, Dallas, Houston, Atlanta, Chicago, New York City, and Southern Florida have already begun signing up to donate 20% of their proceeds on Spa Day, but it's not too late to participate! For spas and salons interested in signing up, or for more information, [click here](#). And don't forget to make your appointments at participating spas for November 8<sup>th</sup>!

## Shop at Ralph's, Support Aid For AIDS



Ralph's Supermarkets Community Contribution Program gives to Aid For AIDS, but all Ralph Club Card shoppers must re-register for the new term.

Don't forget that every time you shop at Ralph's Supermarkets and use your Ralph's Club Card registered under Aid for AIDS, you're making a donation to the agency. The more shoppers sign up under Aid for AIDS, the more our clients benefit. It only takes a few minutes, but registering your Ralph's Club Card really does make a difference - all new and current supporters are required to register for the Sep-

\$1,400 with your help!



## Aid For AIDS Volunteer Voice

*Yesenia Navarro, Special Events Coordinator*

**Hello, Volunteers!** I would like to sincerely thank you for the time and energy you have put forth towards Aid For AIDS. Through your dedication and commitment as a volunteer, you have made it possible for us to continue providing the best possible services to our clients and community.

**Lionel Levin** and **Harry Cohen** have been wonderful by consistently helping out with various office projects, including our Summer Appeal and Spa Day.

The Los Angeles Pride Parade was very successful. Everyone involved had a great time! With help from **Cheer LA**, the **Best in Drag Show Dogs**, and our enthusiastic volunteer marchers **Cary Monette**, **Monique Morrow**, **Oscar Navarro**, **Eunice Dieguez**, **Jasmine Sandoval**, **Julio Salgado**, **Eloy Montoya**, **Maribel Estrada**, **Kathleen Campbell** and the 2006 Best in Drag Show Winner, **Cookie D'eau**, we were able to raise \$1,400 for our clients.

If you would like to become a volunteer, please contact me at 323-656-1107, ext. 2119 or at [ynavarro@aidforaids.net](mailto:ynavarro@aidforaids.net)

Card really does make a difference – all new and current supporters are required to register for the September term. When signing up, you'll need the nonprofit ID number — Aid for AIDS' NPO# is 80767. It can also be found when signing up online.

Register at Ralph's website [here](#), or email [amccarthy@aidforaids.net](mailto:amccarthy@aidforaids.net)

with the following information:

- Ralph's Club Card Number
- First and Last Name
- Address (Street, City, State, Zip)
- Telephone Number

## Thank You: Grants Received Since May 2007

Without the help of supporting grant organizations, our services wouldn't be possible!

**Silva Watson Moonwalk Fund:**  
\$10,000

**Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS:**  
\$5,000, [www.broadwaycares.org](http://www.broadwaycares.org)

**American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA):** \$5,000  
[www.aftra.com](http://www.aftra.com)

Connections, AFA's E-Newsletter, is written, edited, and produced by the AFA Communications Office. Although AFA makes every effort to confirm details, it is not responsible for omissions and event dates that change after publication. We value your support and regret any omissions or errors.

For more information, contact Editor Alison McCarthy, AFA [amccarthy@aidforaids.net](mailto:amccarthy@aidforaids.net).

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