

## AIDS Walk Bar Crawl supports fundraising challenge

Fundraising efforts for AIDS Walk Portland are in full swing. In an effort to encourage and support teams participating in its 2011 Bar.Challenge, Cascade AIDS Project hosted a Bar Crawl on September 10.

The theme was military, and about 120 people came out in camo and ribbed white tanks to purchase the dog tags that gave them access to Hummer and Suburban limos, according to CAP development director Michael Sorensen.

While the crawl brought in some money on its own via admission costs and a raffle, its primary purpose was to invigorate the fundraising efforts of individual bars.

"We know that our community bars serve not just as a nexus for gathering and disseminating information, but also as a force for change. Community bars ... have been at the very heart of positive change from the days of Stonewall to today's unique and challenging times," CAP said in a release for the event.

Two years ago, local bars rose to that challenge and raised \$30,000 for AIDS Walk, but last year that number dipped to about \$12,000. Sorensen said the primary purpose of the Bar Crawl is to support bar teams in their fundraising efforts.

CAP grants the winning bar with gold level sponsor privileges for the following year's walk. Hobo's triumphed in 2010, and served as the starting point for this year's crawl. And though the final fundraising numbers won't be in until October, Hobo's is well on its way to another victory, with more than \$8,000 raised thus far. \*

*There's still time to support your favorite bar. Donate by visiting [AIDSWalkPortland.org](http://AIDSWalkPortland.org) or the establishment of your choice to sign up.*

—ERIN ROOK

## Liz Rabiner Lippoff: Fighting for fairness

Liz Rabiner Lippoff, 59, is on the Cascade AIDS Project board and is a former president, but HIV/AIDS isn't her sole investment.

Lippoff is a crusader for social justice of all forms. She does pro bono work and sits on several boards and committees. She gravitates toward causes that are often the subject of political and religious attacks—causes like Planned Parenthood, mental health care and, of course, HIV/AIDS.

"The total unfairness of the stigma and disproportionate level of care just inflamed me and made Cascade AIDS Project something I wanted to get involved with," she says. "That's why I got on the board."

Lippoff grew up in a progressive household tucked in a conservative suburb of Chicago. She credits her parents for her interest in social justice.

Her father, Fred Rabiner, would have been particularly interested in AIDS Walk Portland, she says. He died in 1978, but he was a hematologist involved in clinical work and research. Many of his patients were hemophiliacs—people who have hemophilia and suffer from



NICK DAVIES

uncontrollable bleeding. He created a home transfusion program for them in the 1960s, she says, that resulted in many patients contracting HIV.

His treatment consisted of blood transfusions that patients could begin immediately when they had a bleeding

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incident instead of waiting to get to the hospital. But the blood supplies were often tainted with the virus. This was before HIV/AIDS was identified in the early 1980s.

"If he were alive today," she writes on her page for AIDS Walk Portland, "he would be in the lab trying to find a cure for HIV/AIDS. And he'd probably be walking by my side."

Lippoff will have plenty of family and friends by her side come October 2. She encourages them every year to walk with her.

"It can be awful when there's no hope," she says, "but anybody that deals with any kind of health issue can be uplifted and inspired by not just the improvement in care, but the attitudes and joy you see at the AIDS walk."

—AARON SPENCER



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