For Immediate Release

More than 3,000 AIDS/LifeCycle® Participants Journeying 545 Miles from San Francisco to Los Angeles

SEVEN-DAY BIKE RIDE FROM JUNE 2 THROUGH 8 IS WORLD’S LARGEST HIV/AIDS FUNDRAISER

SAN FRANCISCO/LOS ANGELES, May 23, 2019 — Thousands of cyclists and volunteer “roadies” will embark on a 545-mile journey from San Francisco to Los Angeles, from June 2-8, united by a common cause: fighting to end the HIV epidemic. AIDS/LifeCycle raises millions of dollars annually to support San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the HIV/AIDS-related services of the Los Angeles LGBT Center. Participants are HIV-negative or living with HIV, LGBT and allies, ages 18 to 88, and from nearly every state and 12 countries.

AIDS/LifeCycle is a fully supported, 545-mile bike ride—not a race—that raises important awareness about the ongoing HIV/AIDS epidemic, in addition to funding critical services such as HIV testing and screenings for other sexually transmitted infections, HIV medical care, prevention services, and more.

“The awareness and funds raised by the AIDS/LifeCycle community are critical components of ending the HIV epidemic—once and for all—for everyone,” said San Francisco AIDS Foundation CEO Joe Hollendoner. “Because of the tenacity and enduring commitment of AIDS/LifeCycle participants, San Francisco AIDS Foundation is able to provide 25,000 clients with services that prevent new transmissions and promote the health of those living with HIV, all free of charge.”

The Ride debuted in 1994 as the California AIDS Ride before it was reconfigured in 2002 to what is known today as AIDS/LifeCycle, the world’s largest annual HIV/AIDS fundraiser. Participants have raised more than $263 million and completed more than 60,000 journeys from San Francisco to Los Angeles.

“The dedication of our riders and roadies—and their generous donors—makes it possible for us to provide vital medical care and services to people living with HIV and to provide prevention tools, including PrEP, to those most at risk of becoming infected,” said Los Angeles LGBT Center CEO Lorri L. Jean. “As the Center celebrates our 50th anniversary, we salute everyone who is part of the amazing AIDS/LifeCycle community working tirelessly to end AIDS.”

Despite remarkable progress that has been made since the disease was first discovered in 1981, the HIV/AIDS epidemic is far from over. In the seven days it takes the riders to reach Los Angeles, more than 700 people in the United States will contract HIV. Currently there are 1.2 million people living with HIV in the country, and one in seven people living with HIV nationwide is not aware of their status.

AIDS/LifeCycle sponsors include Gilead, FedEx, Wells Fargo, and United Airlines. The official bike sponsor is Cannondale.

To follow the journey during the week of the ride through pictures, stories and videos, visit aidslifecycle.org.

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ABOUT AIDS/LIFECYCLE

AIDS/LifeCycle is a fully-supported, seven-day bike ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles. It’s a life-changing ride—not a race—through some of California’s most beautiful countryside. AIDS/LifeCycle is co-produced by the Los Angeles LGBT Center and San Francisco AIDS Foundation and is designed to advance their shared interest to reduce new HIV transmissions and improve the quality of life for people living with HIV.

ABOUT LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER

Celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2019, the Los Angeles LGBT Center has cared for, championed, and celebrated LGBT individuals and families in Los Angeles and beyond since 1969. Today the Center’s nearly 700 employees provide services for more LGBT people than any other organization in the world, offering programs, services, and global advocacy that span four broad categories: Health, Social Services and Housing, Culture and Education, Leadership and Advocacy. We are an unstoppable force in the fight against bigotry and the struggle to build a better world; a world in which LGBT people thrive as healthy, equal, and complete members of society. Learn more at lalgbtcenter.org.

ABOUT SAN FRANCISCO AIDS FOUNDATION

San Francisco AIDS Foundation works to eliminate HIV transmission and extend the longevity of people living with HIV through a network of direct services, public education and advocacy. Each year, more than 25,000 people look to San Francisco AIDS Foundation to access health services, find inclusive communities and gain a voice against discrimination and injustice at all levels of government. Learn more at sfaf.org.
Fact Sheet

WHAT

More than 3,000 people (including cyclists and volunteer roadies) are participating in AIDS/LifeCycle 2019, a seven-day, 545-mile bicycle ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles to raise money for San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the HIV/AIDS-related services of the Los Angeles LGBT Center. Historically, AIDS/LifeCycle has raised more than $263 million, making it the largest fundraiser for HIV and AIDS in the world.

WHEN

Sunday, June 2 – Saturday, June 8, 2019

Opening Ceremony & Ride Out: 6 a.m. at Cow Palace in Daly City
Finish Line Crossing in front of Fairfax High School, located at 7850 Melrose Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90046
Finish Line Festival at Fairfax High School beginning at 11 a.m.

WHERE

SUNDAY, JUNE 2
Start: Opening Ceremony, Cow Palace, 2600 Geneva Ave., Daly City
End: Harvey West Park, 326 Evergreen St., Santa Cruz

MONDAY, JUNE 3
Start: Harvey West Park, 326 Evergreen St., Santa Cruz
End: San Lorenzo County Park, 1160 Broadway St., King City

TUESDAY, JUNE 4
Start: San Lorenzo County Park, 1160 Broadway St., King City
End: Mid-State Fairgrounds, 2198 Riverside Ave., Paso Robles

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5
Start: Mid-State Fairgrounds, 2198 Riverside Ave., Paso Robles
End: Preisker Park, 330 Hidden Pines Way, Santa Maria

THURSDAY, JUNE 6
Start: Preisker Park, 330 Hidden Pines Way, Santa Maria
End: Ryon Memorial Park, 800 W. Ocean Ave. Lompoc

FRIDAY, JUNE 7
Start: Ryon Memorial Park, 800 W. Ocean Ave. Lompoc
End: San Buenaventura State Beach, 901 San Pedro St., Ventura

SATURDAY, JUNE 8
Start: San Buenaventura State Beach, 901 San Pedro St., Ventura
End: Fairfax High School, 7850 Melrose Ave, Los Angeles with Finish Line Festival at Fairfax High School

*The route opens at various times each day, but cyclists are on the road by 7 a.m.

WHY

To raise critically needed funds for HIV/AIDS-related services provided by the Los Angeles LGBT Center and San Francisco AIDS Foundation and to raise awareness that AIDS is still devastating our society, particularly the LGBT community and communities of color in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and throughout California.

SOCIAL MEDIA

🔗 aidslifecycle.org _facebook.com/aidslifecycle -instagram.com/aidslifecycle ações #aidslifecycle 🔗 @AIDSLifeCycle
## Fact Sheet

### HISTORY

- **$263,186,604**
  - Total funds raised through 2018, including AIDS/LifeCycle's predecessor California AIDS Ride
- **60,457**
  - Total participants through 2018, including AIDS/LifeCycle's predecessor California AIDS Ride
- **26**
  - Number of years of riding to end AIDS, including AIDS/LifeCycle's predecessor California AIDS Ride

### 2019 PARTICIPANTS

- **2,300+** Cyclists
- **650** Roadies
- **18** Youngest participant
- **88** Oldest participant
- **43** States represented
- **12** Countries represented*

*Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Mexico, Norway, Singapore, South Africa, Taiwan, United Kingdom, United States

### TRAVEL ROUTE

- **545** Total number of miles
- **95** Permits required
- **45** Towns
- **8** Counties

### ENERGY EXPENDITURE

- **3,410**
  - Calories burned each day (on average for a 170-pound cyclist)

### FOOD

- **44,600** Eggs
- **18,800** Gallons of water
- **11,000** Snack bars
- **6,000** Breakfast pastries
- **3,880** Pounds of bananas
- **2,100** Pounds of pasta
- **810** Gallons of Peet’s Coffee
- **660** Gallons of milk
- **20** Lunches served per minute (on average, at lunchtime)
- **3.3** Tons of vegetables
- **2.2** Tons of oatmeal
- **2.2** Tons of chicken

### SUPPLIES

- **16,000** Packets of “butt balm”
- **7,000** Trash can liners
- **1,500** Tents
- **1,641** Toilets
HIV/AIDS Facts

IN SAN FRANCISCO

• San Francisco has an estimated 15,952 people living with HIV. San Francisco has one of the largest HIV-positive populations in the United States. The city represents 2% of California’s total population, but is home to 12% of its HIV-positive population.
• Of the total number of San Franciscans living with HIV, 9,227 were living with AIDS at the end of 2017. AIDS is a late stage of HIV disease defined by a low count of CD4 cells.
• Men of all ages and ethnicities who have sex with other men continue to be significantly affected by HIV: Nearly 89% of people living with HIV in San Francisco are among gay and bisexual men and 74% of new HIV diagnoses are among gay and bisexual men.
• More than a quarter (30%) of people living with HIV have not achieved viral suppression, a level of the virus so low that it is undetectable and nearly impossible to transmit. More than a third (42%) are not retained in care.
• Black communities are disproportionately represented among new HIV diagnoses: While Black San Franciscans are only 5.5% of the city’s population, they represented 17% of new HIV diagnoses in 2017.
• Of all new HIV diagnoses, transgender women represent almost 3% of new cases. 43% of trans women newly diagnosed were between 18-29 years old.
• The Latino community represents 25% of all new diagnoses in San Francisco.
• Deaths from AIDS-related causes have declined dramatically as a result of effective treatment and adherence. In 2017, 78 people died. Since the beginning of the epidemic, the city has lost 21,554 people to the disease. At its peak in 1992, the city lost 2,327 people in one year.

IN LOS ANGELES

• More than 51,400 people are living with HIV in Los Angeles County. A majority of the people living with HIV in the county are male (89%) and/or Latino (44%).
• 84% of new diagnoses were among gay and bisexual men.
• 64% of new diagnoses were among people between the ages of 20-39.
• 48% of new diagnoses were among Latinos.
• Black communities are nearly five times more likely to test positive for HIV compared to Caucasians.
• The Hollywood-Wilshire district in Los Angeles, which includes the city of West Hollywood, has the highest rate of people living with HIV in the county.
• 60% of people living with HIV in the county are virally suppressed (i.e., their viral loads have reached an undetectable level).

IN CALIFORNIA

• More than 135,000 people are living with HIV.
• Beginning in 2011, about 5,000 people are diagnosed with HIV each year.
• 77% of all HIV diagnoses occur among gay or bisexual men.
• Since 2011, there has been a steady increase in the number of HIV diagnoses among transgender people.
• Black communities account for nearly 17% of those living with HIV.
• Latinos account for over 36% of those living with HIV—a percentage that has grown since 2011.
• Nearly half of all Californians living with HIV reside in Los Angeles County or the San Francisco Bay Area.
HIV/AIDS Facts

IN THE UNITED STATES

• More than 1.1 million people are living with HIV.
• Almost 1 in 7 (15%) of those who contract HIV is not aware of their status.
• While gay and bisexual men account for the majority of all new HIV diagnoses, Black gay and bi men are disproportionately affected, accounting for 25% of new diagnoses.
• Black communities comprise only 13% of the total U.S. population yet accounted for an estimated 43% of new HIV infections nationally in 2017. They also accounted for 42% of everyone living with HIV in the U.S.

IN THE WORLD

• Approximately 37 million people are living with HIV.
• Since the beginning of the epidemic, over 77 million people have contracted HIV and about 35.4 million people have died of AIDS-related causes, including over 900,000 in 2017.
• The number of new HIV diagnoses has decreased from 2.5 million in 2009 to 1.8 million in 2017.
• 10% of new HIV diagnoses occur in people under age 15.
• Deaths of people in Africa accounted for 61% of the world’s AIDS-related deaths in 2015.
• Around 59% of people—some 21.7 million people—living with HIV had access to antiretroviral therapy in 2017.

SOURCES

HIV/AIDS-Related Fact Sheet

The Los Angeles LGBT Center has been a leader in battling AIDS and caring for those who are living with HIV since the earliest days of the pandemic. Today, the millions of dollars raised annually by AIDS/LifeCycle participants support these vital Center services:

**MEDICAL CARE**

Our Jeffrey Goodman Special Care Clinic offers people living with HIV comprehensive free or low-cost primary and specialty medical care. About 3,300 people receive care at the clinic each year, with 42% of them identifying as Hispanic or Latino.

**MEDICAL CARE COORDINATION (MCC)**

MCC is a multidisciplinary team of nurses and social workers who provide support services for people living with HIV (PLWH). Our teams focus on treatment adherence, linkage to care, and minimizing barriers to successful treatment like unemployment, poor access to food, and substance use. We also support patients who are homeless or at risk of losing their housing with rental assistance and other services. Our Case Management team provided services to over 3,800 patients last year.

**TRANSGENDER HEALTH PROGRAM**

Transgender people are disproportionately affected by HIV. Forty-four percent of Black transgender women and 26% of Latinx transgender women are diagnosed with HIV. Our Trans Health Program provides comprehensive, wraparound services for over 1,800 trans people to help keep those who are living with HIV to be engaged in care and to prevent transmission to those who are HIV-negative.

**MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

Our staff of mental health professionals offers one-on-one and group therapy to help people struggling with HIV overcome substance use and addiction, adhere to difficult HIV drug regimens, improve self-esteem, get through the trauma of a new HIV diagnosis, and manage other issues they may be facing. The program serves more than 2,350 people each year.

**HIV TESTING**

One out of seven people nationwide who are HIV-positive don’t know it. We are working to lower that percentage by offering free HIV testing in Hollywood and in West Hollywood, where we also test for chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis. We test 1,900 people for HIV each month. The tests are among the most advanced available and can detect HIV as early as seven days after exposure.

**HIV PREVENTION**

We are working to reduce the spread of HIV through a myriad of education, prevention, and community support services. We have the leading PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) program in California by enrollees, raising awareness and enabling free access to this life-saving medication for almost anyone who wants it. Much of our current focus is on the communities most affected by HIV: young Black and Latino gay men and transgender women. Key among these prevention programs is our Trans Wellness Center, the first-of-its kind health center specifically for and operated by members of the transgender community. Later in 2019, we will be opening our first site in South Los Angeles to provide vital prevention services to that community.

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HIV RESEARCH

Our HIV research is aligned with the National HIV/AIDS Strategy, focusing on intervening at every stage of HIV infection: testing high-risk populations, linking newly diagnosed people to HIV care, retaining them in care, starting them on HIV medications as soon as possible, supporting and increasing adherence to their antiretroviral medications, and ultimately reducing their HIV viral load to undetectable levels. This comprehensive approach is a complex but promising strategy for reducing "community viral load" and ultimately ending HIV or AIDS as an epidemic in the U.S.

PHARMACY

Our full-service pharmacy provides help for patients who struggle to afford costly medications. For patients without private insurance, medications are supported by the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), Medi-Cal, and Medicare, as well as AIDS/LifeCycle fundraising dollars.

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR THE FUTURE?

In 2017, Los Angeles County released the visionary HIV/AIDS Strategy for 2020 and Beyond. In it the County identified three key goals that will help the Center finally bring the HIV epidemic under control: 1) reduce annual new infections to 500 by 2022; 2) increase the proportion of PLWH who are diagnosed to at least 90% by 2022; and 3) increase the proportion of diagnosed PLWH who are virally suppressed to 90% by 2022.

The Center is committed to serving as a key partner in this vital effort to bring our local HIV epidemic under control. **In the next year, the Center will:**

- Provide 35,000 HIV and STD tests.
- Provide STD treatment to at least 10,000 people.
- Provide ongoing medical care and case management to 2,900 HIV patients in the Jeffrey Goodman Special Care Clinic.

HOW WE USE AIDS/LIFECYCLE FUNDS

- **$50,000** underwrites the cost of comprehensive HIV wraparound services by a case management team for 3 months for 135 patients.
- **$35,000** funds an HIV Counselor for 1,200 clients per year.
- **$25,000** covers 5 months of mental health therapy for 28 patients.
- **$15,000** provides comprehensive sexual health services, including HIV and STI tests, treatment, education, and counseling to 100 clients.
- **$10,000** covers 3 months of psychosocial case management for 300 patients.
- **$5,000** covers a full year of laboratory testing for 11 patients.
- **$1,000** funds one client receiving Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP).
- **$250** provides Rapid HIV Antibody tests to 20 clients.
- **$100** provides comprehensive HIV/STI testing to one client.
- **$30** covers the treatment medication for one client diagnosed with an STI.
- **$10** buys 114 condoms that the Health Education and Prevention Program will distribute.

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**HIV/AIDS-Related Fact Sheet**

San Francisco AIDS Foundation serves populations most impacted by HIV and AIDS through education, advocacy, and free direct local services. Funds raised by AIDS/LifeCycle participants support these five interconnected program areas:

**SEXUAL HEALTH**

We provide no-judgement sexual health services for gay, bi and queer men, trans and gender non-binary people and their friends, lovers and allies, and many other communities at risk for HIV. Community members can access health services through Magnet, our clinic in the Castro, at our main office, and on our mobile testing unit. People who inject drugs can also receive HIV and STI testing at the Harm Reduction Center. Sexual health services include HIV and STI testing, STI treatment, trans health, anal health, hepatitis C services, vaccinations, PrEP and PEP.

**SUBSTANCE & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

Substance use is one of many factors impacting HIV risk, and people living with HIV who inject drugs have the lowest viral suppression rate of any transmission category. Our substance use and behavioral health services are based on principles of harm reduction, offering substance use counseling and substance use group support. We work in partnership with clients who use crystal meth, cocaine, heroin, alcohol and other drugs to help them create the goals that make sense in their lives.

**ENGAGEMENT & RETENTION**

A critical component of our work is ensuring people living with HIV have access to health care services, housing and public benefits. Through these services, we are helping people connect to HIV care and achieve viral suppression ensuring better health outcomes and preventing new infections.

**SOCIAL SUPPORT**

We cannot end the HIV epidemic in San Francisco until all communities have equal access to health care, housing, education, and social support. Our teams provide social support, health education and individual advocacy services in safe and supportive spaces that center Black and Latinx communities, transgender and gender non-binary people, and long-term HIV survivors over age 50. Our teams work across program areas to ensure that clients have access to our entire spectrum of services.

**POLICY & PUBLIC EDUCATION**

We champion evidence-based HIV/AIDS policy in San Francisco, California and in Washington D.C., fighting every day to protect the human rights of people at risk of and living with HIV. Our community mobilization team provides countless advocacy opportunities for community members to opportunities to speak truth to power.
HIV/AIDS-Related Fact Sheet

OUR STRATEGY

Our work is guided by three ambitious goals:

Goal 1. Build healthier communities by fostering personal resilience and social support, increasing community engagement, and reducing harms associated with alcohol and other drugs.

Goal 2. Reduce new HIV diagnoses in San Francisco to fewer than 100 per year.

Goal 3. Improve the health and lifespan of San Franciscans living with HIV.

HOW WE USE AIDS/LIFECYCLE FUNDS

$10,000 can help 250 clients change their use and reduce the harm substances bring to their lives.

$5,000 empowers voters to contact their elected representatives on issues that matter most.

$3,000 helps us reduce HIV transmission among people who inject drugs by providing sterile syringes and disposing of them properly.

$2,000 fuels our mobile testing unit for over one year, allowing us to reach diverse communities across San Francisco.

$1,000 funds one weekend-long seminar where people recently diagnosed with HIV can learn more about living healthfully with HIV.

$500 allows groups of long-term survivors to rebuild self-determination and combat social isolation at a weekly program event.

$250 enables 20 trans and gender non-binary clients to meet weekly and build meaningful connections.

$100 provides 10 gay, bi and queer Black men with 1-on-1 counseling support services for one month.

$25 allows a case manager to stay connected with a client living with HIV to help them get to appointments and stay in care.
To arrange an interview with a Media Ambassador, please contact

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CARLOS ALICEA CYCLIST
OAKLAND, CA

“I ride because this is a life changing event—for me and for every person living with HIV. The money we raise supports access to vital healthcare and support.”

As a person living with HIV, Carlos says it’s time to give back to the organizations, including San Francisco AIDS Foundation, that helped nurture him back to health. The two-time cyclist has made it his life mission to transform the lives of those living with the disease—including his career in HIV and AIDS advocacy—because everyone deserves to live long, happy, and productive lives.

TERRY ASTEN BENNETT ROADIE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA

“I had a front row seat to the beginning of the AIDS epidemic. And I never want to see my community die around me again.”

Terry’s family business is located in the Castro, the hub of San Francisco’s LGBT community. During the early 1980s, she and her family witnessed the disease ravage their neighborhood. Decades later, people living with HIV are now thriving—thanks to advanced medicine and to those committed to AIDS/LifeCycle. This is Terry’s second year on the ride.

MICHAEL BECKMAN CYCLIST
LOS ANGELES, CA

“I’ve counted 75 people whom I have lost to AIDS—all gone before their time. Somehow, I’ve survived.”

Living with HIV since 1979, Michael has nearly died several times due to AIDS-related complications. He rides for those who have passed—and for those who have kept him alive. Embarking on his 17th ride, Michael believes AIDS/LifeCycle is tremendously good for the world.
Media Ambassadors

CHARLES BRITTON  CYCLIST
LOS ANGELES, CA

“I return to ride every year now to support my fiancée, my team, and the Los Angeles LGBT Center for changing the course of my life for the better.”

Charles’ connection to AIDS/LifeCycle began in 2014 as a volunteer at the Los Angeles LGBT Center—one of AIDS/LifeCycle’s beneficiaries. Two years later, he completed his first 545-mile journey. While training for his second ride, Charles met his fiancée, Michael, who is living with HIV. With help from the Center, both men were able to have open and honest discussions about their different HIV status.

LORENZO CORDOVA  CYCLIST
SAN FRANCISCO, CA

“As part of the generation of gay men who have access to HIV prevention and care, I know there is still more we can do to eliminate the stigma of HIV within the Latinx community.”

As a child, Lorenzo was told his uncle passed away from substance use issues. At 16, after coming out to his mother, he learned the truth: His uncle died from AIDS-related complications, and his mother was afraid being gay meant Lorenzo would suffer the same fate. Since then, Lorenzo and his mother have been on a journey to educate themselves, along with their family and community about the real facts of the disease.

DOREEN GONZALES  CYCLIST
PASADENA, CA

“I ride to keep our hearts beating—it’s about life. I want to keep the spirits of those we’ve lost alive and to reach out to educate and inspire others.”

Nearly crippled from a car accident, Doreen was committed to rehabilitating her wellness, which included participating in her very first California AIDS Ride, the predecessor of AIDS/LifeCycle. She has cycled a whopping 25 times—many of the cyclists and Roadies she has met through the years gone too soon—but she will continue to ride so that others may live.
SETH HAMMAC CYCLIST
ORINDA, CA

“I ride so that my daughters know about HIV and AIDS—the very disease that took away their grandfather.”

First-time cyclist Seth is riding in memory of his father who died from AIDS-related complications 15 years ago. As an active volunteer and board member of the National AIDS Memorial Grove, Seth is riding this year to raise funds—and awareness—to fight the disease head on.

CHOKAÉ KALEKOA CYCLIST
BEVERLY HILLS, CA

“Nobody in their 20s should have to attend as many memorials as I did. Yet, in the face of this indiscriminate monster, people still did whatever they could to help.”

Best known as the “Yoga Guy” who leads participants through fun, vigorous yoga stretching sessions each morning during the weeklong ride, Chokaé has participated in AIDS/LifeCycle and its predecessor, California AIDS Ride, for 20 consecutive years as a cyclist and a member of the Massage Team. During the peak of the epidemic, he volunteered with several HIV and AIDS organizations and continues to fight back as an indelible part of the AIDS/LifeCycle community.

JINNY MORELOCK ROADIE
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA

“I helped my son battle AIDS and have given many, many hugs to those who are living with HIV and AIDS. I am old enough—and have seen enough—to treat those living with the disease with dignity and respect.”

At 88 years old, Jinny is the oldest participant in this year’s ride. In her words: “Give up the ride? No way. 88 is just a number.” Her first ride—as a roadie—occurred in the early 2000s when her daughter Tracy registered to ride the same year. They were paying tribute to Michael—Jinny’s son and Tracy’s brother—who passed away from AIDS-related complications. This year, mother and daughter are teaming up again.
**AMANDA NEWSTETTER CYCLIST**  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA

“In my career, I’ve witnessed HIV and AIDS evolve from a death sentence to a manageable chronic disease.”

The two-time cyclist is riding in honor of her 35 years working to end HIV and AIDS and in memory of her clients and colleagues who died from AIDS-related complications. When she began her career as a social worker at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation in 1984, all 100 of her clients died from AIDS-related complications. Today, Amanda is the director of the UCSF Bay Area North and Central Coast AIDS Education and Training Center, which provides HIV- and AIDS-technical assistance from San Luis Obispo north to the Oregon border.

**WOLÉ PARKS CYCLIST**  
LOS ANGELES, CA

“To eradicate HIV and AIDS, we all need to step up in the ways we can.”

Wolé knows he is at highest risk of contracting HIV: Black gay and bisexual men are five times more likely to test positive for HIV sometime in their lives when compared to their white counterparts. Wolé—a first time cyclist—believes more people of color serving as role models within AIDS/LifeCycle is one giant step to foster dialogue about the disease among communities most at risk.

**JOEL SALE CYCLIST**  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA

“As a straight man, taking care of my gay best friend fighting AIDS in 1990 was not easy. Now I ride to help create awareness and to help people living with HIV and AIDS.”

Joel felt helpless after burying his best friend—and then six more friends—due to AIDS-related deaths in 1990. When he first heard about the ride, Joel bought an old steel bike at a garage sale and registered for his first ride. He hasn’t missed a year since then—23 consecutive years—and has raised over a quarter of a million dollars benefiting San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Los Angeles LGBT Center.
BRENNAN WOLFORD CYCLIST
ABILENE, TX

“Visibility matters. I’m an out gay officer in the U.S. Air Force here to share my story and support my LGBT community.”

Even after the repeal of the discriminatory Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell policy, Brennan has had to fight for his health and medical care, particularly when he requested access to PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) as a strategy to prevent HIV infection. The first-time cyclist is a member of Team Outserve, comprised entirely of active LGBT servicemembers.