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FRIENDS FOR ALL ANNOUNCES DINING DAY TO FIGHT HIV IN THE MID-SOUTH

Memphis, Tenn.-- Memphis-based non-profit organization Friends For All will be hosting Dining Out For Life on April 25 in fundraising efforts to fight HIV in Memphis and The Mid-South.

Dining Out For Life (DOFL) is an annual nationwide dining fundraising event raising money for community-based organizations serving people living with or impacted by HIV. Currently, Memphis ranks number two in the nation in new transmissions of HIV, making HIV/AIDS a local public health concern for all Mid-South residents. Friends For All addresses HIV as a symptom of a larger issue that affects everyone living in the Memphis area. The organization provides free and low-cost services out of its new location on Poplar Avenue to address these issues.

“With us being number two in the country of new transmissions, it’s important that we now make HIV/AIDS a local public health concern that we work as a community to address,” said Friends For All CEO Diane Duke. “Dining Out For Life is one of the easiest ways the community can help us gain the resources we need to lower transmissions in our city.”

Annually, local restaurants support DOFL by agreeing to donate a small percentage of their DOFL day sales or make a one-time donation to Friends For All. Friends For All then promotes the day through online ads and social media posts to drive the community to participating restaurants. The organization also plans to add participating restaurants to a community resource guide it will mail out later this year. Friends For All typically gathers nearly 30 participating restaurants in the Midtown area and is looking to expand its reach to include restaurants in locations like Germantown, Collierville, and Cordova.

“We’ve had a great amount of support these past few years within Midtown and we are hoping to add more restaurants this year to help us cover more ground,” said Friends For All Donor Engagement Manager B. Scott Duke. “We’ve had some restaurants eager to jump on board, but community support has no limit, so we encourage everyone to get involved.”

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Friends For All has been on the front line in the fight against HIV and AIDS in Memphis and the Mid-South since 1985. Today, the organization has expanded its scope to include factors that influence health outcomes in Memphis and the Mid-South. Programs include housing assistance, behavioral health services, and nutrition treatment services available through both pick-up and delivery. This is in addition to the primary health services Friends For All offers at its location [The Corner](#), and sexual health outreach and testing through its location [The Haven](#).

This year's Dining Out For Life is scheduled for April 25. Restaurants looking to participate can view more information and sign-up at friendsforall.org/dofl. Friends For All will release the list of participating restaurants leading up to DOFL day on its website and social media pages.

For any questions regarding Dining Out For Life, please contact Friends For All Donor Engagement Manager B. Scott Duke at bscott.duke@friendsforall.org.

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