



**Tom Barrett**  
Mayor, City of Milwaukee

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## **Milwaukee goes (RED) with lighting of city landmark World AIDS Day Today**

MILWAUKEE- The Marcus Center for the Performing Arts will be illuminated in (RED) today as Milwaukee joins other cities throughout the nation in the fight against the spread of HIV and AIDS.

Earlier this year, Mayor Barrett asked the Marcus Center to help the City show its support for World AIDS Day by participating in the (RED) campaign where Cities from around the world designate a notable building to be lit with red lighting. Mayor Barrett has also proclaimed today to be “World AIDS Day.”

“As we are certainly aware, the HIV epidemic has disproportionately affected Milwaukee and I’m pleased that our great city is pulling together to bring more awareness to this disease,” said Mayor Tom Barrett.

“Our participation unites members of the public and private sector and ensures that we will continue to work closely together, and with other community members, to develop a collaborative strategy to reduce HIV transmission,” he said.

Currently, Wisconsin has nearly 7,000 people living with HIV/AIDS in the state. More than 50% of those cases are in Milwaukee.

(MORE)

BARRETT WORLD AIDS DAY  
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This spring, Milwaukee unveiled a multi-phased plan to address its high HIV rates by announcing a partnership with Diverse and Resilient, Inc. to help reach young African-American men. This came on the heels of a report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention drawing attention to recent increases in such cases in Milwaukee.

In addition, the City of Milwaukee Health Department is taking action to reduce the burden of disease in our community by offering confidential HIV and STD testing, medical case management for women living with HIV, presentations to community groups, and participation in health fairs. For more information or to make an appointment for HIV or STD testing, call 286-3631.

The Department will also partner with the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center & Sixteenth Street Community Health Center to provide HIV/ STD information, education, resources and testing at the MATC Student Services Building, located at 700 W. State Street from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm.

“It is critical that we stand firm in our fight,” said Commissioner of Health Bevan K. Baker. “We have a number of initiatives already in place, but today we are taking it to the streets and letting everyone know that we need community-wide support and awareness in order to see real change.”