

Association of Flight Attendants – CWA, AFL-CIO
Executive Board Meeting
March 19, 2019
Denver CO

RESOLUTION

SUBJECT: ALS Awareness Month

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ALS is a devastating disease that robs patients of their ability to walk, smile, breath, and live.

Also known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease, ALS can strike anyone. AFA Members, Toni Diamond and Warren Schiffer, became founders of the extraordinary benefit, "Wings Over Wall Street" when Toni was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. They turned their greatest challenge into inspiring work to fight ALS through research funded by the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). In 2004, we lost Toni, our flying partner, but her care-giver husband, Warren, continues to work in her memory.

This disease also struck CWA District 4 Vice President Pete Catucci, who became concerned that people battling ALS have no voice. The “4 Pete’s Sake ALS Foundation” established an Annual Charity Golf Tournament to become a voice for those battling ALS and has raised over \$400 thousand.

Funds are needed more than ever to conduct research to cure this devastating neuromuscular disease, especially as governmental research funds are being reduced.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, ALS has crippled and killed some of our members and their families, and funds are needed to conduct the research to find a cure for this neuromuscular disease; and,

WHEREAS, AFA Members, Toni Diamond and Warren Schiffer turned their greatest challenge into inspiring work to fight ALS by establishing "Wings Over Wall Street," bringing together the spirit of our work in the skies and the financial contributions of Wall Street for a multi-million dollar fund-raising event; and,

WHEREAS, the millions of dollars raised through "Wings Over Wall Street" would not have been possible without the support of Union Members and the generosity of the business community; and,

WHEREAS, the “4 Pete’s Sake ALS Foundation” was established in memory of CWA Vice President Pete Catucci to raise funds for research; and,

WHEREAS, both events also raise awareness of ALS among our general membership.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the AFA-CWA Executive Board, representing 50,000 Flight Attendants at 20 airlines commits to supporting ALS Awareness Month each May, beginning with May 2019; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that AFA will continue to raise awareness among member airlines, by communicating multiple times with members prior to and throughout the month of May; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that AFA will promote the “Wings Over Wall Street” and “4 Pete’s Sake” charitable events for successful fund raising.

Unanimously Adopted on March 19, 2019