Kenneth Cole is an American designer, social activist, and visionary who believes business and philanthropy are interdependent. His global company, Kenneth Cole Productions, creates modern, versatile, and functional footwear, clothing, and accessories that make daily dressing effortless.

For over 35 years, Kenneth Cole has leveraged his passion and unique brand platform seeking to make a meaningful impact on people’s wardrobes, as well as in communities in need. In 1985, with the help of many of the top fashion models in the world, Kenneth launched the first HIV/AIDS public service campaign. He then joined amfAR’s board of directors in 1987, and on World AIDS Day in 2004, he assumed chairmanship, and served in that position for 14 years.

Under his leadership, amfAR was instrumental in significant breakthroughs in AIDS research, treatment, and prevention for the betterment of millions globally. In 2016, Kenneth accepted an appointment as a UNAIDS International Goodwill Ambassador with the goal of helping to end AIDS as a public health crisis by 2030, and in effect, work to achieve one of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2020, in a shift of focus, Kenneth officially launched The Mental Health Coalition to end the devastating and debilitating stigma attached to all mental health conditions. This effort began with the unprecedented formation of a Coalition of the most respected mental health service providers, leading academics, and influential creative and media organizations. The Mental Health Coalition was launched with an innovative and digital storytelling platform called, “HOW ARE YOU, REALLY?,” which creates a safe social space for individuals to share their stories.