



Give the People Light and they will find their own way.

The Wisconsin Light

Madison's United Becomes Member of United Way

(Madison)- The United Way of Dane County has invited the Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN) to become a participating member of its annual fund raising appeal, reports MASN Executive Director Earl Bricker.

"This is a mutually beneficial decision," said Bricker. "For the United Way, it means having an ongoing association with one of the fastest growing non-profit agencies in the county, growing both in the sense of size and respect. For MASN, it will allow greater access, increased opportunities for education and being identified with what is usually regarded as a mainstream organization."

Bricker continued, "Leslie Howard, Executive Director of the United Way of Dane County, made the statement that AIDS is one of her top priorities. It makes perfect sense, given that statement, that the United Way pursue a formal relationship with the primary AIDS Service Organization in the county."

"Although there might be some differences to iron out over the coming months, not unusual when a new relationship is created," Bricker went on, "The end result should be a stronger MASN and a United Way more representative of the community. The end result should prove positive for the larger community."

MASN has received funding indirectly from the United Way for the past two years via HospiceCare, Inc. The United Way funding offered to MASN is \$35,000 over a two year period. In addition to monetary awards, the United Way of Dane County offers aid to its participating agencies in the form of group insurance plans and management assistance programs, to give but two examples.

MAP's Drop-in Center Opens January 19

(Milwaukee)- Friday, January 19, will mark the opening of the Drop-In Center at 225 S. 2nd St. It will be open from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. and is sponsored by the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP).

Following the opening, the Drop-In Center will be open every Friday and Saturday evening from 10:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.

As part of the HIV education/prevention program for Milwaukee's Lesbian/Gay community, the Drop-In Center will serve several functions:

As an outreach of MAP, the Center will provide information, referrals, resources, brochures and safer behavior kits;

As a safe, alcohol-free environment by providing coffee and soft drinks;

As a focal point for HIV prevention in the community;

As a station for Stop AIDS Milwaukee in its outreach to bar patrons;

MAP will be working in conjunction with Brady East STD Clinic to provide STD/HIV testing. Workshops will also be presented dealing with HIV-related issues such as medical, psycho-social, legal, safer sex and risk reduction. Workshops will be offered from 8:00-10:00 p.m. and details will be announced when specific dates are set.

Please feel welcome to "drop in" anytime on your way to an evening out, to take a breather, or if you just want to relax and talk. For the first four weeks, when you drop in and fill out a short survey, you will have a chance of winning a gift certificate from M&M/Glass Menagerie.

For more information on the Drop-In Center and HIV education/prevention programs for the Lesbian and Gay community, please call Michael Lisowski at MAP, (414) 273-2437/273-1991.

Reps. Petri and Roth Hold Worst Records of Wisconsin Congressmen



Dr. Karen Lamb presented Jet of Jet's Place bar a gallon jar stuffed with hundreds of dollars for MAP, as Mr. Gay Wisconsin, J.J. Newmann assisted at the Dec. 22 benefit show.

Milwaukee AIDS Project In Urgent Need of 200 New Volunteers

(Milwaukee)- The Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) has issued a special appeal for 200 new volunteers to help deliver life care services to its rapidly growing clientele of people with AIDS and HIV infection. MAP Executive Director Doug Nelson called the appeal "absolutely essential" and asked for support from Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian community.

"We are experiencing a surge in new client intake that goes beyond the projected rate of increase that we expected," Nelson explained. "We have recently been averaging 10 to 15 new clients per week which requires that we speed up and increase volunteer recruitment. Although we are not alarmed by these changes, it is absolutely essential that we secure the volunteer help that is so important for our clients."

Nelson said there is an immediate need for 50 new emotional support volunteers or buddies, and 70 new practical support volunteers to help clients with transportation, housekeeping, meal preparation, grocery shopping, and laundry. By the end of 1990 he said MAP would need another 50 buddies and at least 30 more practical support volunteers.

LIGHT and IN STEP To Hold Media Workshop on February 24

(Milwaukee)- Wisconsin In Step Magazine and Wisconsin Light, in conjunction with Gay/Lesbian Press Awareness Month, will host a media workshop entitled "Getting The Word Out," February 24 in Milwaukee. Organizations, groups, businesses, advertisers and all interested parties are invited to learn the basics of working with the media.

Getting The Word Out will include presentations on how to write a press release, how to design an ad, an overview of what goes into putting out a publication and a general, open forum on working with the alternative and mainstream press.

The publications, members of the Gay/Lesbian Press Association (GLPA), opted to present the program to focus on our community's media. Presenters will include Annabelle Havleck of Havleck and Associates, In Step's publisher, Ron Geiman and editorial assistant, Tim Hensiak along with Light's publisher

"Our greatest need is for people who can dedicate daytime hours to help our clients, even if it's just an hour or two on a regular basis," Nelson said. "An ongoing commitment, however, will be a tremendous help to our clients."

Nelson said that volunteer training requirements have been reduced for practical support volunteers so that new volunteers can quickly be trained and can deliver needed services as rapidly as possible. He urged all who are willing to help to call the MAP office (273-2437) and ask to be scheduled for a general orientation training session which are held bi-weekly.

"Volunteers are the foundation of MAP's life care services program," Nelson said. "Last year we trained 218 volunteers and in 1990 for client services alone we need 200 new volunteers if we are to keep pace with the doubling of our clientele."

"Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian community has historically been MAP's strongest source of support," Nelson stated. "Once again we must ask the community for help. Working together we can successfully confront the challenge of AIDS."

Jerry Johnson, editor, Terry Boughner and columnist, Jamakaya.

"We've been remiss in the past by not participating in Gay/Lesbian Press Awareness Month. This afternoon will give us a chance to improve working relationships with our audience and, hopefully, we'll all learn something," said Geiman.

Boughner echoed Geiman and added, "This is an exciting opportunity for the entire community to gain some understanding of how to make use of its press." Getting The Word Out will be held February 25, 1:00-5:00 p.m. in the M & M Club upstairs banquet room at 124 N. Water (use the Water Street entrance). The presentations will be free. Complementary refreshments will be available. The publications request that those interested in attending RSVP to either paper at (414) 278-7840 (In Step) or (414) 372-2773 (Light) by Tuesday, February 20. Walk-ins will be encouraged.

(Washington, D.C.)- On December 28, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) issued its year-end "Federal Legislative Report" covering the first session of the 101st Congress. The Report provides information on the voting and co-sponsorship records of all 535 members of Congress from January to December, 1989, and gives an insight into the legislative progress of the federal Gay/Lesbian civil rights and AIDS agenda.

Among other findings, the Report shows which members of Congress have "perfect" voting records and which need work. For example, 85 members of the House voted for the NGLTF pro-Gay position all of the time, while 41 Members voted against NGLTF every time.

In the House, Members were tracked on eight key votes, including the Hate Crimes Statistics Act, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) anti-Gay amendment, four votes on the "Armstrong amendment" that exempts religious educational institutions in D.C. from anti-discrimination laws, and two votes on restricting educational materials relating to homosexuality.

In the Wisconsin House delegation, Reps. Jim Moody (D-Milwaukee) and Robert Kastenmeier (D-Madison) were 100 percent in favor of Gay/Lesbian issues while Reps Thomas Petri and Toby Roth, both Republicans, were anti-Gay/Lesbian on every vote.

Of the other Republicans, F. James Sensenbrenner voted for Gay/Lesbian issues 13% of the time while Steven Gunderson voted for Gay/Lesbian issues 88% of the time.

Among Wisconsin House Democrats, the percentages read: Les Aspin- 88%, Gerald Kleczka-88% and David Obey-86%.

In the Senate, lawmakers were tracked on four key Gay/Lesbian and AIDS votes: The Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), a measure that extends anti-discrimination protections to people with AIDS and HIV; two votes on the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) anti-Gay Helms' amendment; and an amendment offered by Gordon Humphrey (R-NH) that would have banned federal funds from school programs that presented homosexuality as "normal, natural or healthy."

Of the two Wisconsin Senators, Republican Robert Kasten had a 25% pro on these four Gay/Lesbian issues. Democrat Herb Kohl voted favorably 75% of the time.

Kasten is not listed as being a co-sponsor of any legislation favorable to Gays and Lesbians. Kohl co-sponsored three such bills; the Hate Crimes Statistics Act (S 419); the Americans with Disabilities Act (S 933) and the Low-Income Treatment Assistance Program Act (S 1782) which would provide for AIDS treatment assistance for low-income individuals.

Among the 50 states, Wisconsin is ranked 14 among the top House delegations, voting with NGLTF on Gay/Lesbian issues 61% of the time. The state's Senate delegation voted with NGLTF 50% of the time.

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