



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

The Wisconsin Light

Thompson Signs \$1.4 Million AIDS Funding

[Madison]- Governor Tommy Thompson has signed into law a \$1.4 million program to provide care and treatment assistance for people infected with the HIV virus.

Under the plan introduced into the 1989-90 state budget by Representative David Clarenbach (D-Madison), \$1,261,000 will be used to fund AIDS/HIV life care services programs in Wisconsin's six AIDS Service Organizations. The AIDS Service Organizations include the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), the Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN), and the Green Bay Center Project, Inc. (CPI).

The remaining \$101,300 has been earmarked to help defray the high cost of the anti-AIDS drugs AZT and pentamidine.

"State government is now an active partner in the fight against the AIDS epidemic," Clarenbach said. "With 300 lives lost to AIDS in Wisconsin already, and another 10,000 state residents infected with the AIDS virus, it is critical that we commit ourselves to fighting AIDS now."

"AIDS is a time bomb waiting to explode. Governor Thompson is to be commended for understanding that and approving this critical program," Clarenbach said.

Clarenbach Scores Stunning Victory for Wisconsin AIDS Fight



On his 25,000 mile walking tour around the world for AIDS, Bill Mole (center) stopped in Milwaukee where over 500 people added their names to the signature scroll. Pictured is This Is It owner Joe adding his autograph while Ron Reichert (right) held the scroll of over 10,000 names. (See Story on Page 5).

Jerry Johnson

[Madison]- Wisconsin State Representative David Clarenbach (D-Madison) has scored what one legislative insider has called "a stunning victory in the fight against AIDS" referring to the recently passed state budget's allocation of \$1.4 million to benefit Wisconsin's AIDS service organizations (see article this issue).

Clarenbach, noted for his strong stands on civil rights and as the Father of Wisconsin's Gay Rights law, is being hailed for his work in getting a Democratic legislature and a Republican governor to agree on the appropriation which, in the opinion of many will place Wisconsin way out front in its commitment to the fight against AIDS, a commitment that is equaled by no other state.

Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), one of the AIDS service organizations due to benefit from the allocation of funds spoke with high enthusiasm to Light about what the new funding will mean to MAP.

Nelson pointed out that even with the expected increase in MAP's case load, MAP will now be able in the next two years to sufficiently increase its numbers of case workers to reach the 1-35 ratio which is the ideal. "No other city can make that statement," he said.

"MAP," he said, "will be able to guarantee that all its HIV and PWA clients will have access to the most highly qualified social workers and case

U.S. Court Decision Favors Army; Ben-Shalom To Appeal

[Milwaukee]- Sgt. Miriam Ben-Shalom of Milwaukee, an openly Lesbian woman lost another round in her 14-year legal battle with the Army.

On Tuesday, August 8, 1989, a three-judge panel of the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals sitting in Chicago, determined that she was not entitled to re-enlist in the U.S. Army Reserve.

This decision reversed an earlier one made last January in Milwaukee by Federal Judge Myron Gordon. At that time, Gordon said that the Army regulation against Ben-Shalom's homosexuality violated First Amendment guarantees of freedom of speech.

The Seventh Circuit dismissed First Amendment arguments on the basis of the fact that Army regulations have changed since Gordon's ruling was made with the consequence that "The features

with possible consequence we cannot safely evaluate." The Congress, the judges said, was "better equipped" to make such determinations.

Ben-Shalom, in her original argument, TURN TO BEN-SHALOM, PAGE 11

Thompson Vetoes Insurance For AIDS Coverage

[Madison]- Republican Governor Tommy Thompson has vetoed a \$300,000 pilot program which would have required the state to pick up the cost of insurance premiums for persons with AIDS who are no longer able to work as a result of their illness.

The plan, offered by Representative Peter Bock (D-Milwaukee), would have saved individuals with HIV infection from facing the prospects of losing health insurance coverage and would have saved the state millions of dollars in medical assistance expenses.

Despite his veto, Thompson said the solution "has potential."

"By paying insurance premiums for these people, it might be possible to avoid higher state spending on other programs such as Medical Assistance which would otherwise provide health care coverage for these individuals," Thompson said in his veto message.

"However, I am vetoing these provisions because I believe this proposal deserves more debate and consideration than was afforded in the budget deliberations, as this issue has complex impacts on social, health and insurance concerns," Thompson added.

Representative Tim Carpenter (D-Milwaukee), a ranking member of the Assembly Health Committee, was "extremely saddened by the Governor's veto."

"It's incredible that in a \$23 billion budget, Thompson would see fit to eliminate this critical program," Carpenter said.

Carpenter said he "holds out hope that we can still convince Governor Thompson to support this important program in separate legislation later this year."

Court Rules Paper Can Reject Gay-Oriented Ads

[Green Bay, WI]- The Green Bay Press-Gazette did not violate state discrimination laws when it refused to run classified ads for a Gay-oriented group, a judge ruled.

Brown County Judge Vivi Dilweg dismissed a lawsuit filed in 1986 by Jay Hatheway and his organization Among Friends plus Peggy and Tracey Vendeveer. The suit named as defendants the publisher, advertising director and telephone sales manager, as well as Gannett Co., the paper's owner and Gannett Satellite Information Network Inc.

Hatheway and his group filed suit after the Press-Gazette declined to run an advertisement for medical, legal and professional services designed for Gays and Lesbians. The Vendeveers sued when the newspaper rejected their proposed ad for sweatshirts imprinted with pro-Gay and Lesbian slogans.

The lawsuit argued that because the newspaper offered classified advertising for money, it was, in effect, a "public place of accommodation" and, therefore, subject to the same Wisconsin discrimination laws that govern hotels, restaurants and similar places.

However, Judge Delweg said classified TURN TO NEWSPAPER, PAGE 11

MAP To Publish Account Of Funds August 24

Milwaukee- Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) has announced that in the next issue of Light (August 24 issue) that there will be a detailed article along with an explanatory chart showing clearly how money raised from individual donations as well as the various fundraisers and benefits sponsored by community organizations, bars, clubs, groups and MAP itself is used.

This is being done, Nelson said, so that the whole community may know the full extent of how much its efforts on behalf of MAP's clients have been and continue to be badly needed.



Rep. David Clarenbach

managers in the field." He continued, "We will have a professionalism that no place can match."

In addition to counseling and other services, with increased professional staff, MAP will be able to help more PWA's to remain in their homes longer, instead of having to go to hospitals or other institutions.

The funding that MAP will receive over the next two years from the state will free up moneys received from private donations for a greatly expanded individual care program.

Nelson spoke of buying a second house for those living with AIDS. With private gifts and donations MAP can begin to "seriously" plan for a group hospice staffed by fully trained and experienced staff who are sensitive to patients' needs and lives.

Newly freed private moneys will enable MAP to increase its financial assistance to clients. The current amount given for clients for personal use is \$500 per person per year. This will be raised allowing people some of the extras as well as the necessities of life.

With moneys received from fundraisers and other private sources, MAP will now be able to purchase medical equipment needed by those with AIDS as well as

TURN TO CLARENBACH, PAGE 11



Sgt. Mariam Ben Shalom

then found objectionable have been substantially eliminated."

In its written opinion, the Court went on to say that "Discharge of a soldier who evidences homosexual tendencies, desire or interest is no longer broadly mandated."

On the issue of being openly Gay and in the military, the Court took the out of declaring itself incompetent to make that decision.

"We, as judges, should not undertake to second-guess those with direct responsibility for our armed forces," the opinion read. They went on to say that such a change (allowing openly Lesbians and Gays in the Army) would be "risky

Jerry Johnson