



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

The Wisconsin Light

\$129,000 Grant To Assess HIV Prevention Needs In Milwaukee

[Milwaukee]- The Milwaukee Indian Health Board, Inc., (MIHB) has been awarded a one-year \$129,000 grant from the U.S. Conference of Mayors to coordinate the first, comprehensive, community-based HIV Prevention Needs Assessment for the Milwaukee community.

The project is designed to identify current services, barriers, gaps and needs for HIV/AIDS prevention activities. MIHB believe that this is an important opportunity for the Milwaukee community to develop a strong collaborative prevention strategy which will lead to a truly successful HIV/AIDS prevention program for the future.

The assessment will give special focus to the prevention needs of four targeted populations: Gay/Bisexual men, substance users, women in high-risk situations and at-risk youth.

To accomplish this end, 500 surveys will be completed by 125 members of each of the targeted groups. Another survey tool will be developed for prevention service providers to assess the current level of services.

A Collaborative Effort

The project will include input from the City of Milwaukee Health Department, the Medical College of Wisconsin, the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, the State of Wisconsin AIDS/HIV Program, the American Red Cross, the Milwaukee Public Schools, as well as many community-based organizations involved in prevention.

The project will also include the development of an on-going group for HIV/AIDS prevention planning and coordination and a computerized HIV/AIDS Prevention Resource Data Base.

At the conclusion of the project, a public seminar will be held to release the final report and will include an address by a prominent HIV/AIDS educator or epidemiologist.

For further information, call Joan Lawrence at (414) 931-8111.

MATA Accused of Censoring 'Gay Agenda' Propaganda Video

[Milwaukee]- A dispute has erupted between the producers of *The Brand New Queer TV* program and the Milwaukee Access Telecommunications Authority (MATA) of the showing of the videotape *The Gay Agenda*.

The Gay Agenda is a 20 minute tape produced by Antelope Valley Springs of Life Ministries, a Fundamental Christian group in Lancaster, California. The anti-Gay tape features clips of nudity and bawdiness taken from footage from various Gay Pride parades. Over 25,000 copies of the tape have been distributed across the country, including copies to members of Congress and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The tape has also been featured on Pat Robertson's *700 Club*.

The producers of *Brand New Queer TV*, Dan Fons and Michael Lisowski, planned to show the complete tape on their March 9, 1993 show at 7:00 p.m.

According to Fons, Jonah Mitchell, who offers a program called *Testimonies of Praise* across the hall from where *QTV* was being shown, saw the tape being broadcast and complained to MATA.

Fons said that a woman, watching the show in the lobby, also complained because Christians were being made fun of.

Afterward, Warner Cable asked for a copy of the tape to show to their lawyers. Fons said that there is no written policy on review of tapes to be cablecast.

Warner shunted the tape back to MATA which insisted that if the tape were to be shown again, certain graphic segments such as a simulated masturbation scene must be masked.

Government Leaders Blasted For Insufficient AIDS Funding



THE BEST IN THE U.S.— Wisconsin's entry in the U.S. Snow Sculpting Team brought home a first place trophy at "The 1993 United States National Snow Sculpting Competition," held recently in Anchorage, Alaska. As a result of their victory Wisconsin snow sculptors Arlyn Kampen (Center), Bill Hackbarth and Paul Hess will represent the United States at the "Olympic Arts Festival" to be held in conjunction with the 1994 Winter Olympic Games in Lillehammer, Norway. Their winning sculpture was a geometric representation of identical horses titled, "Equine Spirit". According to Kampen, the piece was designed to reflect the aesthetic majesty of horses using rectangles, squares, circles and other shapes.

Experts at Harvard Medical School Say Homosexuality May Be Genetic

[Cambridge, MA]- There is evidence that homosexuality may be genetic — but only enough to merit further study, researchers told a Harvard Medical School conference on March 6, 1993.

The cause of homosexuality is "an open and unanswered question," said Dean Hamer, Chief of the gene structure

and regulation section at the National Cancer Institute.

Hamer said his research indicates that sexual orientation may be hereditary on the mother's side.

"Maternal transmission was more than expected by chance" in studies, Hamer said.

However, Dr. Richard Pillard, professor of psychiatry and director of the family studies laboratory at the Boston University School of Medicine, said studies also have found that Gay men are five times more likely to have brothers who are Gay as heterosexual men.

"Sexuality must have some biological basis," said Pillard, who called himself the first openly Gay psychiatrist in the United States.

About 90 people attended the Harvard Medical School symposium on the biological nature of homosexuality and the psychological development of homosexual men and women.

"The biological explanation of homosexuality, or genetic, or choice is the question of today," said Dr. Marshall Forstein, a member of the medical school faculty and a psychiatrist.

But at least one participant, Camille Paglia, said she feared the study of homosexuality's basis would become political, not scientific.

"I'm disappointed in the overly Gay representation here," said Paglia, author of *Sexual Personae and Sex, Art and American Culture*. "I don't like the feeling of a clubhouse. That is not science. There's too much political correctness here."

And April Martin, clinical supervisor of the Yeshiva University doctoral program in psychology, warned that debating the scientific origins of homosexuality would distract attention from human rights issues.

"The question of whether homosexuals should have full legal and civil rights and social acceptance have nothing to do with whether we can or can't help or change our inclinations," said Martin, author of *The Lesbian and*

[Milwaukee]- In an unusually sharp critique, Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW), parent organization of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), strongly criticized federal, state and local political leaders, including Sen. Herb Kohl, Wisconsin Governor Tommy Thompson, Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist and Milwaukee County Executive Tom Ament for failing to address a worsening AIDS epidemic.

"A lot of political lip service is being offered to the AIDS crisis, yet there are very few political leaders who are willing to commit government resources to meet the enormous demands that the epidemic is placing on our communities," Nelson said.

"What's most distressing is that even our most progressive politicians are failing us," Nelson continued.

Nelson, MAP's long-time Director, serves on the Board of Directors of the National AIDS Action Council in Washington, D.C. and chairs its Public Policy Committee. Having attended several meetings to promote the national AIDS agenda, Nelson expressed serious concerns over political prospects in Washington.

"Senator Kohl joined conservative forces in opposition to lifting the immigration ban on individuals with HIV and he is expressing opposition to the President's economic stimulus package which will double federal AIDS funding for Wisconsin," Nelson continued.

Nelson, obviously upset, pointed out that AIDS activists have waited 12 years for a president to take AIDS seriously and that Kohl's opposition to the President's increased funding for AIDS was "unexpected and a serious set-back" in light of his significant political power on the Senate Appropriations Committee.

"The Republican strategy in Congress is to raise the most controversial issues of the Clinton social agenda and pressure moderate Democrats like Kohl to oppose the President," Nelson explained. "Because the Clinton Administration is not yet fully staffed and therefore somewhat disorganized, the Republican strategy is working and the AIDS agenda and the agenda of the Gay/Lesbian community is suffering."

Nelson praised Sen. Russ Feingold (D-WI) for his lone vote among Wisconsin's Congressional delegation to support the President's initiative to lift the immigration ban. He also praised President Clinton for being one of the only sources of "enlightenment" on AIDS issues in the Washington power structure.

Sites State Failure

Nelson said that recent set-backs go beyond the federal government. "I was notified last week by the State Bureau of Public Health that they intended to cut AIDS prevention grants by 50%," Nelson reported.

"I was astounded that the State, in the most cavalier manner, announced the cut-back at the very moment that the HIV epidemic is intensifying in every region of the state."

Nelson said that the annual AIDS prevention grant of \$357,000 was hardly enough to do justice to a state-wide AIDS prevention campaign and that the Bureau's decision to cut \$177,000 would result in staff reductions at Wisconsin's AIDS service agencies and the elimination of some AIDS prevention programs for high-risk individuals.

Nelson said that Wisconsin was experiencing a 30% increase in the AIDS caseload every year. Tens of thousands of Wisconsin citizens are now infected with HIV and hundreds of thousands of people are at "significant risk" for this devastating disease.

"I cannot understand how any public health professional can ignore the threat