

action alert:

Send Cheers to Red Cross

...for creating specific gay and lesbian family criteria in its official guidelines for those who lost loved ones in the September 11 attacks. It is the first national organization to spell out criteria for including gay and lesbian households for relief efforts.

However...Tell them to change their outdated, discriminatory blood donor policy against

gays and bisexual men.
American Red Cross
www.redcross.org

Send Jeers to Salvation Army

... for their discontinuation of domestic partnership benefits for their employees. They should also adopt the Red Cross' criteria regarding a broader definition of family in terms of providing relief for same-sex survivors of the September 11 attacks. ▼

The Salvation Army
www.salvationarmy.org

GLBTpowerhouses form partnership: "Community Action Program"

by Wayne Besen

WASHINGTON — The Human Rights Campaign Foundation and the Gill Foundation have teamed up to create a partnership called

the Community Action Program (CAP) to provide assistance to state and local gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender and AIDS organizations to identify, assess and apply for federal grant funds. The program is being funded by a three-year grant from the Gill Foundation.

"This partnership is yet another critical collaboration between HRC and The Gill Foundation that will help the GLBT community deliver services to those in need," said the Gill Foundation's Donna Red Wing. "HRC is uniquely positioned to lead this project and it is our hope that this program will provide additional resources to our state and local organizations at a time when other funding sources are becoming increasingly scarce."

"HRC will screen over 1400 programs administered by more than 200 government departments and agencies for grant opportunities to provide assistance to the GLBT and allied communities," said Elizabeth Birch, HRC's executive director. "This program will support our own community-based organizations that have the capacity and desire to participate in the delivery of federally funded services and programs, particularly in GLBT and AIDS-related services and programs."

HRC and the Gill Foundation will engage in extensive outreach to potential applicants through collective networks and training.

"HRC brings a wealth of experience and expertise with the maze of federal government bureaucracy to this project," said HRC's political director, Winnie Stachelberg. "We are tremendously excited about the opportunity to work side-by-side with GLBT community-based organizations such as community centers, anti-violence projects, youth organizations, lesbian health centers and state-wide organizations to make this project a success."

The Gill Foundation and HRC Foundation will educate and promote the CAP to potential applicants. Together, the HRC and Gill staffs will help teach GLBT community-based organizations how to access federal government assistance.

"We all know it is difficult to qualify for

federal grants, however the GLBT community which provides quality services every day, often against all odds, deserves its fair share of federal assistance," said Birch. The Human

Rights Campaign Foundation is the foundation for the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest lesbian and gay advocacy organization. With members throughout the country, HRC effectively lobbies Congress, provides campaign support and educates the public to ensure that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Americans can be open, honest and safe at home, at work and in the community.

Established in 1994 by software entrepreneur Tim Gill, the Gill Foundation is a Colorado-based, nonprofit philanthropic organization. The mission of the Gill Foundation is to secure equal opportunity for all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, by providing grants to nonprofit organizations and building awareness of the contributions people of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities make to American society. ▼



Donna Red Wing



Elizabeth Birch

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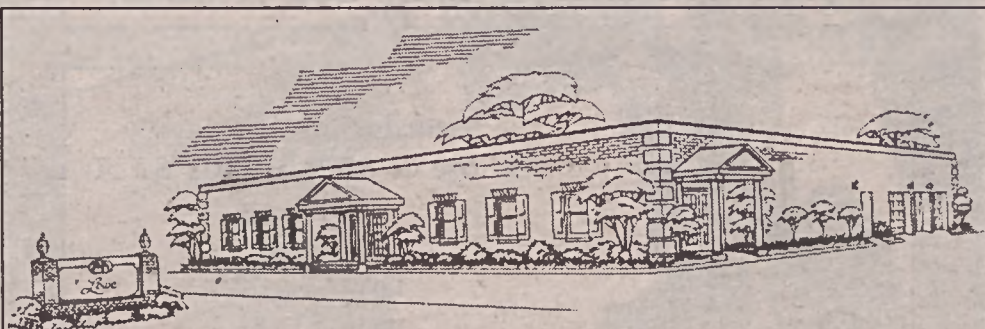
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