

Mobilization Against A.I.D.S.

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A CALL TO A CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE FOR MOBILIZATION AGAINST A.I.D.S.

March 29, 30, & 31
Swedish American Hall

2174 Market Street

San Francisco, California 94112

Dear Friends and Activists

We invite and need your organization to join us in the political struggle to secure an adequate response to the A.I.D.S. epidemic. Now is the time to bring massive political pressure on both the government and the medical establishment to create a genuine national emergency Mobilization Against A.I.D.S. The organizing by concerned citizens to make this happen has received a powerful new thrust with the creation of a promising new of a promising new organization -- MOBILIZATION AGAINST A.I.D.S.

Mobilization formed its first group in San Francisco. Others are being organized or discussed in other cities in California and in other parts of the nation. The founders of these groups have a vision that MOBILIZATION AGAINST A.I.D.S. should become a national grassroots political movement of those concerned citizens (gay, bisexual, and straight) who are willing to fight for an adequate response from government and medical authorities.

The Interim Steering Committee of San Francisco Mobilization was appointed for 90 days pending a statewide meeting which would formalize a statewide CALIFORNIA MOBILIZATION AGAINST A.I.D.S. That meeting has been called for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 29, 30, and 31 in San Francisco, California at the Swedish American Hall, 2174 Market Street. We invite representatives of your organization to join us in developing the information and in making the decision about structure and strategy that will assure the effectiveness of this organization.

To cover the costs of the conference and to provide a fund for the "start up" expenses of a state and national campaign, we are asking each organization to become a "sponsor" by paying a fee of \$100.00. This entitles your organization to send four voting representatives to the conference with as many observers as you wish. If you prefer, your organization may become a "supporter" of the conference by paying a fee of \$50.00 which entitles your organization to two voting representatives.

The conference will include major speakers and workshops providing up to date medical, government and political information. It will culminate in an organizational and strategy meeting.

The magnitude of the A.I.D.S. epidemic is enormous. There are now 8,000 cases in the U.S. with the total number doubling every ten months. The Journal of the American Medical Association projects 40,000 People with A.I.D.S. in the next two years. The University of California Task Force on A.I.D.S. stated this month "We are clearly in the midst of a major medical catastrophe."

The response to A.I.D.S. by government has been woefully inadequate. Behind a shield of words the government has followed a "too-litt-to-late" educational program despite the assertion by A.I.D.S. researchers that A.I.D.S. is a preventable disease.

- 1/3 of the Federal Government-approved A.I.D.S. research projects were not funded.
- There is no national "A.I.D.S. prevention" educational program despite the assertion by A.I.D.S. researchers that A.I.D.S. is a preventable disease.
- Patient services for People with A.I.D.S. is grossly inadequate in most of the nation.
- In California many researchers cannot apply for state money for research because all A.I.D.S. research is restricted to University of California Faculty. Even prestigious institutions such as Stanford are ineligible for funds.
- It was two years after the detection of A.I.D.S. before the government spent any money in response.

In short, we do not have, by any standard, an emergency response to what the Secretary of Health and Human Services has called "the number one health problem in America."

The political situation, however, gets worse. The Reagan Administration is trying to cut funds for medical research by 1/4 of the funds already appropriated. They want more cuts in future years. Meanwhile, anti-gay bigots use A.I.D.S. as a political weapon to attack equal rights for our people.

As the war against A.I.D.S. grows more grave, it is time for us to expand our efforts to gain an adequate response to this epidemic. It is time to enhance the outgoing political efforts around A.I.D.S. with massive involvement actions such as marches, rallies, pickets, vigils, petitions, boycotts, etc. These were the methods used to end the war in Vietnam, to lead the civil rights movement, and to launch Lesbian and Gay Liberation. These are the political tactics we must utilize again. We will obtain the necessary action by government and the medical establishment when we have involved tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands, even millions of people in demanding a national mobilization against A.I.D.S. It may take us years to do this. Unfortunately it appears we will be in a war against A.I.D.S. for a long time.

In San Francisco and Los Angeles, we have already taken some actions as befits a mass action group. We have demanded an accounting from government and called for Congressional investigations into the inadequate response to A.I.D.S. We have picketed the Department of Health and Human Services to protest the "red tape" which is delaying research and education. We have invited leading medical authorities to give their view on the future of the epidemic. Further actions are planned. As these efforts expand, we need the help of a broad spectrum of organizations and individuals. We believe this statewide conference will provide the framework for such support. We hope your representatives will join us.

FOR THE INTERIM STEERING COMMITTEE--PAUL BONEBERG, COORDINATOR

Paul Boneberg
Paul Boneberg

() YES, OUR ORGANIZATION WILL BE REPRESENTED AT THE CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE FOR MOBILIZATION AGAINST A.I.D.S. IN SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA ON MARCH 29, 30 & 31, 1985.

Please list us as a

- () SPONSOR, \$100.00 ENTITLES ORGANIZATION TO 4 VOTING REPRESENTATIVES.
- () SUPPORTER, \$50.00 ENTITLES ORGANIZATION TO 2 VOTING REPRESENTATIVES.

NAME OF ORGANIZATION _____ PHONE: () _____
ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
NAMES OF VOTING REPRESENTATIVES _____