

Services of the Trust / The Terrence Higgins Trust.

Contributors

Terrence Higgins Trust

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THE AIMS OF THE TRUST :

- * To inform, advise and help on AIDS and HIV infection
- * To provide welfare, legal and counselling help and support to people affected by AIDS and HIV infection and to their partners, friends and families
- * To disseminate accurate information about AIDS and HIV
- * To provide health education

The Trust provides direct services in Greater London as well as sharing information and its expertise throughout the UK and Europe. This flyer gives details of these services which are available to anyone concerned about AIDS and HIV infection.

BUDDY SERVICE

Buddies are trained and skilled volunteers who are committed to providing a consistent service of emotional and practical support to a person with AIDS on a one-to-one basis. The aim is to enable a person with AIDS to live well by leading a satisfying and fulfilled life based on personal decisions and choices. The role of the Buddy is always determined by the wishes of the person they work with, their individual needs and the level of support they are already receiving. Buddies aim to complement rather than replace existing support and care-giving from partners, families and friends and health workers from both statutory and voluntary agencies.

If you need a Buddy, contact a Buddy Liaison Officer on 071 831 0330.

If you are interested in becoming a Buddy, contact the Volunteer's Department on the same number.

HELPER CELL SERVICE

For those who do not need the broader range of help provided by Buddies, trained volunteer who we call 'Helper Cells' offer practical as opposed to emotional support, usually on a one-off basis. This is a supplementary service for people with AIDS. For example - driving, shopping, housework, ironing, cooking and decorating.

If you need Helper Cell support, contact the Helper Cell Officer on 071 831 0330.

If you would like to become a 'Helper Cell', contact the Volunteer's Department on the same number.

COUNSELLING

THT provides a number of different counselling and support services to both men and women. They are available to anyone infected or affected by AIDS and HIV infection. The services are free of charge and strictly confidential and provided by trained and experienced counsellors.

For further information about the Counselling Service, contact the Counselling Officer on 071 831 0330.

HELPLINE

The Helpline opened in 1984 and was the first AIDS Helpline in Europe. Its role has now developed into being a major source of counselling, support and referral. Helpline counsellors are trained to deal immediately with a varied workload as the callers range from the recently diagnosed to the worried well and the bereaved. The service operates from 12.00 - 10.00 p.m. every day of the year.

The Helpline number is 071 242 1010

For further information, contact the Helpline Co-ordinator on 071 831 0330.

ADVICE CENTRE

The Terrence Higgins Trust's Advice Centre provides confidential help and advice on legal, welfare benefits and housing problems. The service is free and is available to anyone affected by AIDS or HIV infection. The Advice Centre staff consists of three welfare rights advisors, 2 housing workers, a solicitor, a lawyer and a centre administrator. There are also over 40 volunteer lawyers and welfare rights advisors.

Telephone advice is available from 10am-5pm on 071 831 0330

(you should also use this number if you wish to make an appointment,
home and hospital visits can be arranged if needed)

Legal Line - Wednesday evenings from 7pm-10pm on 071 405 2381

PRISONS SERVICES

The **Prison Liaison Service** are available to anyone in prison who is concerned about HIV/AIDS and would like advice, information and support. This also extends to partners or family members of prisoners. Prison Liaison Officers work with a number of agencies to ensure all prisons within England and Wales can be offered a service. A referral service through local agencies is available for prisoners in Scotland and Northern Ireland. The **Prison Buddy Service** is similar to the regular Buddy Service of the Trust. It is provided to convicted prisoners diagnosed with symptomatic HIV infection in London and Home Counties prisons and is co-ordinated by the Prison Liaison Officers.

For further information about the Service, contact the Prison Liaison Officers on 071 831 0330.

HEALTH PROMOTION AND INFORMATION SERVICES

The Terrence Higgins Trust is committed to developing new ways of raising awareness and challenging attitudes on HIV, as well as providing help, advice and information on AIDS and HIV infection for everyone. Health promotion programmes, which aim to create a well-informed public, are targeted at specific groups taking into account individual needs, circumstances and perceptions and use a variety of approaches and methods.

The **Gay Men's Health Education Group** brings together gay men from a variety of backgrounds who are committed to promoting gay men's health. In the past, the group has produced a range of innovative and well received resources such as the Tales of Gay Sex photostories and Gay Men's Guide to Safer Sex video, and in the future will continue to develop health education campaigns that are relevant to the lives of gay men.

For further information about specific projects for gay men, contact the Gay Men's Development Officer on 071 831 0330.

The **Women's Development Officer** carries out ongoing research into gaps in the health education needs of women - especially on negotiating safer sex, and co-ordinates the Women's HIV/AIDS Network which provides a forum for discussion and debate for workers in the field. A Women's Volunteer Group concentrates on providing new health education resources for women. In the past, she has also been involved as consultant in the production of the ground-breaking video: Well-Sexy-Women - a lesbian guide to sexual health.

For further information about the Group, contact the Women's Development Officer on 071 831 0330.

The **THT Roadshow** is an outreach project based in the Health Promotion Team. It aims to take out relevant information about HIV/AIDS and the services of the Trust, to groups in the community. Gay men, women and young people are a major focus for its work, and it visits diverse venues from cinemas, clubs and festivals to colleges, clinics, prisons and conferences. It currently would like to do joint outreach work with other related organisations.

For further information about the Roadshow, contact the Roadshow Administrator on 071 831 0330.

The **Library** provides a service to the Trust and the public complemented by the **Enquiry Service**. It plays a key role in gathering information about HIV and its related issues, enabling users to keep in-touch with developments whether clinical, social or in research. Resources include books, magazines, videos and press cuttings, which date back to 1985. Visitors are welcome by appointment.

For information and appointments for the Library, contact the Librarian on 071 831 0330.

For information on HIV-related topics, phone or write to the Information Officer at the Trust.

Open Mornings are held every six weeks and give workers from other agencies, as well as the general public, the chance to gain an overview of Trust services.

To attend an Open Morning, contact the Open Morning Co-ordinator on 071 831 0330.

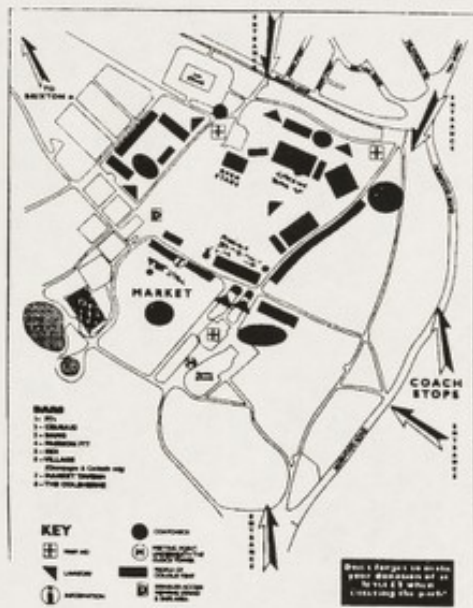
Speakers Corner can provide speakers on a wide range of HIV-related topics including medical, legal and social concerns, as well as the services available from the Trust. Venues vary from hospitals, local authorities, schools and students' unions to lesbian and gay groups.

If you would like a speaker, contact 'Speakers Corner' on 071 831 0330.

MESMAC (Men Who Have Sex With Men Action in the Community). A new three year phase of this project has been funded by the 4 Thames Regional Health Authorities in order to consolidate and extend the work done so far. This will specifically focus on black men and young men, resourcing youth provision in London and to carry out HIV health promotion work with gay men in each region.

For further information about London MESMAC, contact the Co-ordinator on 071 831 0330.

WHERE TO FIND US AT PRIDE '93



THT Merchandise and Information is located in the Market Place

The 'Sexhibition' Tent is located next to the 'Mates/Club Sex' Disco & Bar

The Gay Men's Group will be handing out information, condoms etc. throughout the park and can be found in the Health Tent.