### **LASS: Leicestershire AIDS Support Services.**

### **Contributors**

Leicestershire AIDS Support Services

### **Publication/Creation**

[1992?]

### **Persistent URL**

https://wellcomecollection.org/works/u2cscemq

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LEICESTERSHIRE AIDS SUPPORT SERVICES

### WHAT IS LASS?

The full name of LASS is Leicestershire AIDS Support Services (incorporating Leicestershire Aidsline). We changed our name in September 1988 to reflect our broader purpose and services.

We are a voluntary organisation aiming to provide a comprehensive range of practical services in relation to HIV and AIDS for the county of Leicestershire.

### All contacts made with us are totally confidential.

We are an autonomous organisation, not part of any statutory body, although we work closely with other organisations in both statutory and voluntary sectors.

We have a highly trained core of volunteers, and we aim to respond to any requests in a friendly, flexible and sensitive way.

## WHAT DOES LASS PROVIDE?

LASS aims to provide a wide range of services related to HIV and AIDS. We hope to be flexible enough to meet most requests.

We can provide **counselling**, **care and support** to people with AIDS, people with HIV, and their carers, friends and families. This ranges from highly intensive "Buddying" to occasional support. We also provide a **telephone line**, staffed by trained volunteers. We can also help out with more practical needs, e.g. accompanying people to hospital who wish to be tested for HIV, or helping with ironing, shopping etc.

We also occasionally give direct financial help to people with HIV or AIDS. We are prepared to act as representatives or advocates for people with HIV or AIDS or their carers who may be experiencing difficulties with statutory bodies, e.g., DSS or Health Authority, but for various reasons may not feel able to make approaches themselves.

We also take part in many **Health Education** initiatives, working with other organisations to produce leaflets and literature, or producing our own, and providing, **information on HIV or AIDS**, and **Training and Speakers** for other organisations.

# WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP US?

If you want to help LASS you can do so in many ways.

Like any voluntary organisation we are always short of money, so we would grateful for any **donations** or **fundraising events** that you might like to organise.

Perhaps you might like to become a "Friend of LASS" or of the "David Manley Fund", which is used only for the direct financial help of people with HIV, people with AIDS and their carers.

Or you might want to become a **volunteer** with LASS. We hold introductory weekends twice yearly, followed by 18-week training courses.

If you are interested, please contact Linda, overleaf

### CAN WE

If you think that we might be able to help in any way, please don't hesitate to get in touch. You can contact us by writing to:

LINDA GRANT
LASS CO-ORDINATOR
29 NEW WALK
LEICESTER LE1 6TE

or by ringing **0533 559995** (office hours) Fax: **0533 559979** 

## HIV & AIDS INFORMA!

AIDS Co-ordinator, 549922 ext 6429

Information, advice, referrals, training, presentations, resource materials, link persons with other organisations.

Lesbian & Gayline, 550667 Mon-Fri 7.30 – 10.30pm Information, advice and support both over the telephone and face-to-face for anyone concerned about AIDS.

Health Advisors, 544140

Provide free counselling for people who are infected with HIV or who have AIDS.

Clinic 6, Leicester Royal Infirmary, 541414 ext 5208 Sexually transmitted diseases clinic. Provides HIV testing and counselling facilities.

Body Positive, 559995

Social and support group for people who are HIV antibody positive or who have AIDS.

Black Lesbian & Gay Group, Write c/o 29 New Walk, Leicester

Offers support to black lesbians and gay men who are concerned about, or who have, HIV or AIDS.

Leicestershire Community Drugs Service, 470200 For information, advice and counselling for all problem drug use.

Health Promotion Department, 625733

Training courses and resources library.

Haemophilia Society, Mr B T Lewis, 358622

Offers advice and support to people with haemophilia and arranges social events.

Black HIV & AIDS Forum, 855955

Provides counselling and support to Asian, African, African-Caribbean people living with and affected by HIV or AIDS. Also offers training on HIV-related issues.