

**BLACK OUTREACH PROJECT
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 8,1995**

Present: Joan Jones, Marsha Gannon, Sherry Bernard, Brian Walker, Chris Bundy, Clayton Langford, and Deena Noseworthy

1. Project Update

HIV positive health promotion - Deena and Clayton met and discussed doing more outreach to HIV positive persons to make services more accessible. Areas identified were the I.D. clinic, community centres, and clubs.

Action: The Black Outreach Project name should be changed to directly have the word AIDS in it so that HIV positive persons can easily identify its purpose.

Church Consultation - Deena, Sherry and Kim met and discussed formerly writing to the Reverends and Licentias in the hopes of arranging a meeting to discuss the church's role in AIDS support and education. The entire Advisory Board will be invited to this meeting and the main presentation will be done by Sherry. The first draft of the letter has been done.

Action: Sherry will edit the letter, return it to Deena, who will then send it to the Black Reverends and Licentias.

Black Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Group - Lorne, Troy, Robert and Deena met to discuss this group. This group has formed and will be having their first meeting March 12/95 and another meeting March 26/95. Due to confidentiality, people who are interested in attending the meetings can simply call Deena or Lorne.

Resource Kit and Training Manual - Sherry, Chris and Deena met to discuss the format of the kit. Most of the information has been gathered and put in a comprehensive order. Sherry and Chris felt that the format should be changed to separate the resource kit from the manual as opposed to having it all in one.

Action: Deena needs to continue formatting and developing the manual and resource kit, and have a first draft done for next meeting.

Presentations and Workshops - Black History Month kept this area of the work very busy. Information sessions were done for: Yarmouth tutoring program, North Branch Library, Windsor tutoring program, Yarmouth youth conference, and a presentation in Sydney, C.B. was cancelled due to storm but was rescheduled for March 11/95. There was condom distribution done at the Derby the night of Feb. 14/95, and two media profiles were done with MITV, one with Deena and one with Lorne. The presentation at North Branch Library brought out issues on the community's response to being gay. It was expressed that this issue needs to be more addressed by the Black Outreach Project.

Action: Ongoing presentations, workshops, and training sessions. Addressing our community's issues on gayness will be up for discussion pending the church meeting.

2. AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia

Deena went over provincial consultation process for members who were not at the last meeting. Resentment and frustration was expressed over how the Project is regarded in this process, (1 of 4 cultural community's; request to be one corporate identity; staff representation). These concerns are added on to past problems specifically with AIDS Nova Scotia board.

Action: Deena will set up a meeting between the executive of the new AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia and our Board to finally address the aforementioned issues, as well as, the overall relationship between the organization and the Project.

The Black Outreach Project now has a seat on the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia Board. Sherry Bernard will be our representative.

Thought and discussion needs to happen over what plans we should have for the Project since current funding will be ending January 1996.

Action: The Steering Committee will meet to present some concrete ideas and opinions on the next step for the Black Outreach Project.

3. Other

Deena shared how she has been hearing things about an "AIDS problem in North Preston", though she considers them to be rumors. It was discussed that regardless of whether these are rumors or not, the Project must do something.

Action: Deena will call the medical clinic in North Preston to try and use them as a vehicle in addressing this issue.

4. NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

MAY 2, 1995 - 5:30 P.M.

at the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia Office