december 19, 2003 . just out

## MORTHWISSInewsbriefs

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Gay, lesbian, bi and trans students and allies; children from sexual minority families; and students of color are particularly encouraged to apply.

The Greater Seattle Business Association, the Emerald City's queer chamber of commerce, has awarded 150 scholarships totaling more than \$300,000 since its inception in 1990. The money is awarded to undergraduate students who demonstrate need and potential leadership for the sexual minorities community.

The Pride Foundation's program began with a 1992 bequest from Brian M. Day that established a scholarship for Puget Sound gay men of color. Since then, the nonprofit has awarded more than \$520,000 to 326 people.

Awards of up to \$5,000 each will support college, creative or vocational training. Applications are due Jan. 20.

For more information about the Greater Seattle Business Association scholarship, call 206-363-9188 or visit www.thegsba.org. For more information about the Pride Foundation scholarship, call 800-735-7287 or visit www.pridefoundation.org.

### \$450,000 GRANT WILL HELP **HIV-AFFECTED CHILDREN**

A matching grant of \$450,000 milds awarded to Cascade AIDS Project to fund matching grant of \$450,000 has been its Kids' Connection program for children whose parent or caretaker is HIV-positive.

Of 313 nationwide applications to the highly competitive Local Initiative Funding Partners program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, only 18 were funded in 2003. Meyer Memorial

Trust nominated CAP's proposal and recently awarded three years of seed funding for Kids' Connection. The Robert Wood Johnson monies will be dispersed to CAP for the next four years and must be matched dollar for dollar by locally raised funds.

Kids' Connection was selected as a potential national model for bringing together AIDS agencies and children's services to address a rapidly growing problem: the devastating impact of the epidemic on the entire family. HIV-affected families often have the least access to health care and are disproportionately affected by poverty, homelessness, mental illness, substance abuse and discrimination.

With shifting HIV/AIDS demographics, CAP has experienced significant increases in diversity among its client base and sees many more families with children. In 2002, 39 percent of its 1,600 clients were heterosexual and 16 percent were women.

Among CAP's current gay and bi men clients, a higher percentage have children in their lives than ever before. It's estimated that 2,300 HIV-affected children live in the Portland metropolitan area.

Because fear and stigma related to AIDS is still prevalent, many parents choose not to seek services for themselves or their children outside the HIV arena or, when they do, they don't disclose their HIV status. As a result, many of their children remain invisible, have unmet needs and lack access to care and services. Kids' Connection is designed to improve the physical well-being, mental health and personal safety of these isolated, vulnerable youth.

"Cascade AIDS Project will build on its strong collaborative relationships with other service providers to expand our local infrastructure to support these high-risk kids," said Victor Merced,



Donna Red Wing, along with Marty Rouse and Scott Sherman, a Vermont couple joined in a civil union, met with Iowa queers to discuss their support for Howard Dean

Meyer Memorial Trust program officer. "In sum, CAP is helping to re-engineer a new continuum of care for these children and their families."

#### FORMER LCP DIRECTOR JOINS DEAN CAMPAIGN

onna Red Wing, who served as executive director of the Lesbian Community Project from 1993 to 1996, is helping former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean with his bid for the Democratic presidential nomination. She campaigned in Iowa from Dec. 9 to 11 for the candidate, who recently earned the endorsement of U.S. Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr., D-III.; former U.S. Sen. Paul Simon, 1988 Democratic presidential candidate; and former Vice President Al Gore, 2000 Democratic presidential nominee.

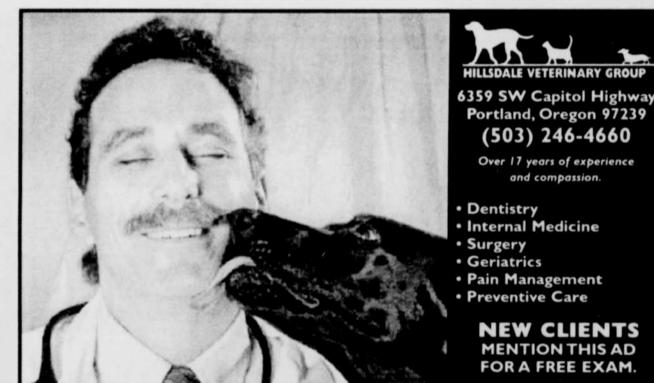
"Dean is the only candidate willing to stand up to George W. Bush on the war in Iraq to providing civil rights for all Americans," Red Wing said. "As the governor of Vermont, he supported groundbreaking legislation that allowed all Vermonters to be treated equally."

Red Wing is the principal consultant at Red

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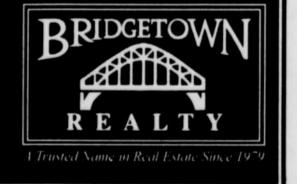


# 25th Anniversary...

...we extend our thanks to the community for its support and wish everyone a peaceful and happy 2004

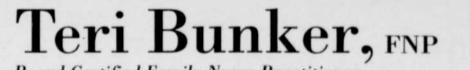
(and hope that interest rates stay at record-breaking lows!)

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