

Human Rights
Campaign Fund

An
Introduction

SYMBOLIZING A COMMUNITY'S POLITICAL EMERGENCE

One of the many achievements made by the gay community in recent years has been its emergence as a potent political force. Gay men and women have become more vocal, more pragmatic, and more sophisticated in their efforts to secure social and legal recognition of their basic human rights.

As the community's political action committee (PAC), the Human Rights Campaign Fund is on the cutting edge of those efforts. It has become the recognized voice of gays and lesbians in hundreds of election campaigns throughout the nation.

The Campaign Fund has taken its place alongside PACs representing other interests across the broad political spectrum. Since its founding in 1980, the Campaign Fund has become one of the largest independent PACs in America. It is a symbol of the growing influence, credibility and clout of the gay civil rights movement, and an expression of the community's political maturity.

ADVOCATING RIGHT AND CHALLENGING WRONG

The Campaign Fund, as one of the leading national organizations representing the gay community, has aggressively pursued the goal of basic human rights through modern political methods. It has helped bring the gay movement into the mainstream of the American political process.

Through the generosity, conscience and commitment of thousands of gay men, lesbians and their supporters, the Campaign Fund is able to offer financial support to candidates and officeholders whose election will help further the progress of the gay civil rights agenda.

As a counter to the well-organized and well-financed efforts of the enemies of gay people, the Campaign Fund is evidence of what a large and determined community can do when it mobilizes its resources and stands up for its beliefs.

HOW THE CAMPAIGN FUND WORKS

The Campaign Fund's mission is simple: to provide financial support on behalf of the gay and lesbian community to candidates of both parties, Republicans and Democrats, who pledge their support of gay civil rights legislation. The specific issues most important to us are:

- 1) legislative protection of lesbians and gay men from discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations;
- 2) adequate federal funding for AIDS research and treatment programs;
- 3) reform of immigration laws which now prohibit gay people from entering the country; and
- 4) an end to exclusion of gay people from military service.

To accomplish these goals, the Campaign Fund relies upon contributions from the broad base of individuals who believe in the protection of social, civil and legal rights for lesbians and gay men. The support of those individuals, and the success of the Campaign Fund's efforts, go hand in hand.

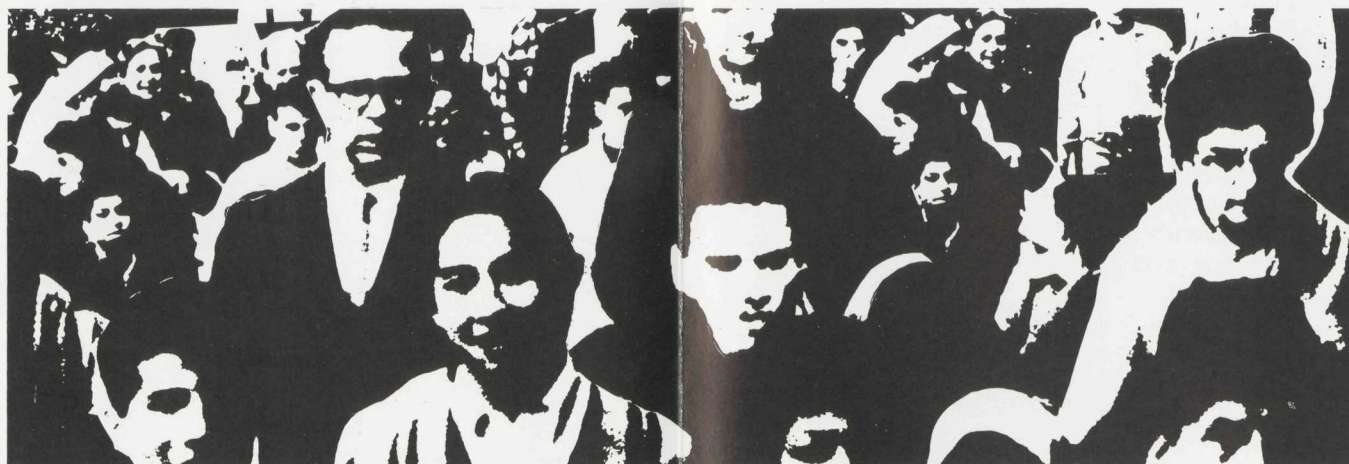
The Campaign Fund raises its funds through fundraising events, direct mail contributions, and other activities coordinated by our Washington office and our Board of Directors. The Board is comprised of individuals who donate their time, talent, and personal money to help the Campaign Fund achieve its objective. Board members make a personal commitment to raise a minimum of \$5,000 per year, and pay all of their own expenses when conducting Campaign Fund business.

Supplementing these efforts are those of our Advisory Committee, representatives from corporations, labor unions, religious and government institutions, and political organizations who believe in what we're doing.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Your cash contribution to the Campaign Fund is critical and will make a difference. It will keep the Fund a vital component of the political process which will decide if our rights are won or lost. It will have a direct impact on your own personal freedom.

Contributions to the Campaign Fund are eligible for a tax credit on your income tax returns. You can receive a tax credit for one-half of your contribution, up to \$50.00 for individuals and \$100.00 for joint returns. You can also contribute your time and your energy to volunteering for the Campaign Fund in your own city. However you decide to participate, you'll become a part of a proud and exciting movement, and share a piece of the historic victories waiting to be won.



Keeping Our Friends in Congress and our Enemies Out is Important to Me.

I want to be a part of the national effort by contributing:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$200 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 ☐ Other \$ _____

☐ Enclosed is my check made payable to the Human Rights Campaign Fund. Post Office Box 1396, Washington, D.C. 20013

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Bill my: ☐ MasterCard

☐ Visa

☐ Choice Account:

Account No. _____

Expires _____

Mo. _____ Yr. _____

(Signature) _____

"I have been proud to work with the HRCF in seeking increased funding for AIDS research and insuring human rights for all Americans. My campaigns have been enhanced by the active support I have received from the HRCF."

Rep. Bill Green
R-New York

"I was grateful not only for the level of support from the Human Rights Campaign Fund, but for the timing of the contributions. The Fund helped out at several crucial points in the campaign; early, when we needed to get off on the right foot and contributions were hard to come by, and later, when we were faced with huge media expenses, with an infusion of absolutely vital support during the final months of the campaign."

Rep. Les AuCoin
D-Oregon

"The Human Rights Campaign Fund came to my assistance at an important point in my campaign. I am grateful for the Fund's help in my victory."

Rep. Claudine Schneider
R-Rhode Island

"The Human Rights Campaign Fund, consistent with its own criteria on candidates' stands regarding gay civil rights, provided tremendous support for black Congressional candidates."

Rep. Julian Dixon
D-California

"The Human Rights Campaign Fund, which is well-managed and organized, does an outstanding job of supporting progressive candidates from both the Republican and Democratic parties."

Rep. Steward McKinney
R-Connecticut

"The Human Rights Campaign Fund was very helpful to me in my campaign for re-election. Given the existence of several far-right organizations which seek to defeat those of us who oppose discrimination against gay men and lesbians, it is important to have the Human Rights Campaign Fund serving as a counterweight."

Rep. Barney Frank
D-Massachusetts

"The support of the Human Rights Campaign Fund was a vital element in my successful re-election. The HRCF and other like-minded organizations provided resources to neutralize a strong 'New Right' challenge and allowed me to keep the campaign focused on the real issues."

Rep. Bob Edgar
D-Pennsylvania

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(Organizations/Affiliations are for identification purposes only.)

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