

A PLEA FOR YOUR SOLIDARITY

The Argentine Homosexual Community, (CHA), which is now part of this meeting of Non Governmental Organizations on Policies for Solidarity, has its campaign STOP AIDS going since 1987; since 1989, CHA works for structuring and solidifying through its Organizing Committee, a ICASO. In the same line of action, we are part of the Organizing Committee of the Latinamerican Network of Non Governmental Community Based Organizations.

In spite of his six years of active life, six months ago CHA received from the Argentine government the denial to recognize its legal existence (called "legal capacity"), on the grounds of prejudice, but with effects damaging to basic liberties: freedom of expression and association, minority rights and the principle of no discrimination.

CHA appealed this denial and is now in a legal battle before the Supreme Court of the Nation, and if necessary CHA will go to the Interamerican Commission of Human Rights in San José de Costa Rica.

These events between CHA and the Argentine government are a mirror to events happening between the Non Governmental Organizations working on AIDS in Latinamerica: governments tend to ignore their existence and deny their activity, disowning in fact resolution 42 of the World Health Assembly of 1989. In CHA case, the events we are telling about are harming deeply our STOP AIDS campaign, and impairing our action in favor of prevention and protection of the rights of those involved in AIDS issues. You can show your solidarity with these actions:

- Write letters to President Carlos Saúl Menem, Balcarce N° 50, Buenos Aires, asking to straighten the situation. There is a draft letter enclosed.

- Give money to the Fund for Judicial Issues especially created by CHA for // legal battle. CHA has no eternal support or financial means, no patrons nor sponsors, for the // five programs that are going on: (Diagram of activities included).

This Fund for Judiciary Issues had to be created because the appeal in the // Supreme Court is very expensive in Argentina. Any amount should be sent to its vicepresident Rafael Hugo Frede, who is monitored by a team of lawyers. Send bank checks or money orders to Casamance N° 469 - P.B. "A", Buenos Aires. 1213 Buenos Aires, Argentine.

- You can also send books, documents and acts on legislative matters, data, // legal background or other information that could be deemed useful to the team of lawyers who defend CHA.

Pass this information to:

- Your organization.
- Any NGO you are in contact with.
- Human rights defense organizations.
- Gay and Lesbian movements or organizations.
- Civil rights defense leagues.
- Other entities which could help.

Any idea or information can be requested from CHA, with headquarters in Casamance N° 469, P.B. "A", Buenos Aires. 1213 República Argentina.

NOTA: CHA cannot have a bank account because of this denial of legal capacity. Any bank check or money order should be issued to the order of the CHA Vicepresidente Rafael Hector Hugo Frede

