

LGBT-005 Collection Inventory
LGBT Center of Central PA History Project
Archives and Special Collections
Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA
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COLLECTION REGISTER

Name:	Dierkers, Peg J.	LGBT-005
Material:	Papers (1990-1995)	
Volume:	0.25 linear feet (1 document box)	
Donation:	Donated by Peg J. Dierkers, 2013 and 2015	
Usage:	These materials have been donated without restrictions on usage.	

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

In the mid-1980s, concerned members of the Harrisburg gay community began organizing informal meeting. Troubled by the lack of services available for HIV-positive persons in their area, the group first helped meet the needs of their friends with the illness. As the disease entered mainstream consciousness, the group grew rapidly and began serving the larger community as the South Central AIDS Assistance Network (SCAAN). In 1988, SCAAN used grant funding to hire its first three full-time staff members and served 13 clients; by 1995, the group was run by 12 staff members and assisted by 150 volunteers, aiding more than 255 patients.

Client services aimed to support patients through financial assistance with rent, groceries, utility bills, and healthcare premiums. SCAAN also provided medical supplies such as bed pads, crutches, and wheelchairs. The organization also organized a buddy system, connecting volunteers with patients. Buddies provided assistance with a variety of tasks, ranging from light housekeeping to the management of complex treatment regimens.

SCAAN staff served as advocates for their clients, helping them navigate welfare, social security, and other bureaucracies, as well as assisting terminal patients with end-of-life planning. SCAAN also provided valuable educational resources, informing clients about their medical options with their annual Bulletin and organizing trainings at schools and churches to educate the general public about the disease. After merging with the Lancaster AIDS Project to become the AIDS Community Alliance, the organization is known today as the Alder Health Group.

LGBT-005 Collection (cont.)

SERIES 1 – South Central Aids Assistance Network (SCAAN) Newsletters

- 1.1 Apr. 1990
- 1.2 Fall 1990 (pages missing)
- 1.3 Nov. 1990
- 1.4 Dec. 1990
- 1.5 Winter 1990
- 1.6 Spring 1991
- 1.7 Apr. 1991
- 1.8 Winter 1992

SERIES 2 – South Central Aids Assistance Network (SCAAN) Reports

- 2.1 Jan. 1995

Inventory created by Malinda Triller Doran, 2013. Updated Dec. 2015.