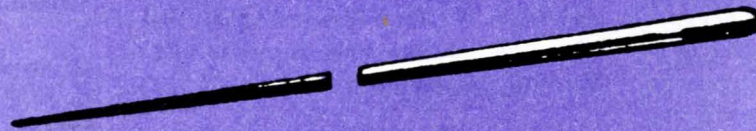


1988 National Tour

THE  
**NAMES**  
PROJECT



**Boston, Massachusetts**  
**Park Plaza Castle**  
**June 16-19, 1988**

.....  
**SPONSORS**





# Welcome

Dear Friends:

Welcome to the New England display of the national AIDS memorial quilt. It has been an honor and a joy for all of us from Names Project/New England to work on bringing the Quilt to Boston.

We started back in October as a roomful of strangers drawn together by the power of the Quilt. We felt it could help people grasp the staggering human loss that lies behind the AIDS statistics. We thought it would give New Englanders a way to come together to grieve and celebrate the lives of the people lost to AIDS. We hoped it might encourage people to think about the questions that the AIDS epidemic raises. And we expected that it would help raise money to support the community groups that serve people with AIDS and educate everyone else about how to prevent its spread.

What we didn't foresee was the response from the six New England states. It has been overwhelming. And in the outpouring of support that began last fall, two points stand out. One is the extraordinary talent and dedication of the people who stepped forward as volunteers to make this project a reality. Boston and New England are lucky to have them; we will never forget working with them.



Quilting bees took place at the Arlington Street Church in Boston.

The second point is the panelmakers themselves – their strength, their grace, and, above all, the tender conversations they conduct, in letters and on rectangles of cloth, with the people they have lost. We feel most fortunate to have been allowed to listen in; we think you will, too.

Many of us were inspired to join the Names Project after seeing the Quilt in Washington last fall. We hope it has the same effect here. On October 8, 9 and 10, 1988, the Quilt, with all the panels added during the course of this 20-city tour, will return to Washington, where it will be spread along the Mall from the Washington Monument to the Capitol. Please join Names Project/New England in making more panels this summer and in visiting the Washington display in October. You will carry the experience with you always.

Thank you for taking the time to share this powerful symbol of remembrance and hope. We look forward to the day when there are no more names to add to the AIDS memorial quilt.

For love and for life,

*The Steering Committee*

Inaugural public display in Washington, October 11, 1987.



## Inside the Castle

Because of space constraints and concern for traffic flow, we ask your assistance in the following manner:

- If possible, limit your visit to the Quilt to 45 minutes, and follow the traffic pattern set up inside the building. We understand that this may not be possible for people who are grieving, but we ask you to try as best you can.

- Encourage friends to visit the Quilt early in the morning, late at night, or on Friday, all times that we expect will be less crowded. Also, remind people that the New England panels will be displayed outdoors on Saturday, which will help us present them to a larger audience.

- People with AIDS, senior citizens, or others with special needs who cannot stand in line should speak to a monitor (wearing a white *Names Project* hat). He or she will be ready to make special arrangements for you.

- If lines are long when you are waiting to see the Quilt, visit our multimedia exhibit, "A Quilt of Many Colors: A History of the AIDS Memorial Quilt" in the University of Massachusetts building across Arlington Street.

# Schedule

## DISPLAY

Thursday, June 16

6:00 pm to 11:00 pm

•

6:00 pm

Castle doors open

•

6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

Opening ceremony, featuring members of Les Misérables—first national company.

•

8:00 pm

Fundraising reception, Boston Park Plaza Hotel. Hosted by Liz Walker of WBZ-TV4.

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Friday, June 17

7:00 am to 11:00 pm

•

8:00 am

Reading of names commemorated in the Quilt

•

8:00 pm

Reading of names commemorated in the Quilt

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Saturday, June 18

7:00 am to 11:00 pm

•

10:00 am

Outdoor display and ceremony hosted by Jeanne Blake and Tom Bergeron of WBZ-TV4 (rain date June 19).

•

8:00 pm

Reading of names commemorated in the Quilt

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Sunday, June 19

7:00 am to 6:00 pm

•

8:00 am

Reading of names commemorated in the Quilt

•

4:00 pm

Closing ceremony, including reading of names commemorated in the Quilt and presentation of New England panels to representatives of the national Names Project

## RELATED EVENTS

*Through July 6*

**A Quilt of Many Colors: A History of the AIDS Memorial.** Photographic exhibit documenting the making of Names Project panels in Boston.

Community Arts Gallery, UMass/Boston, 100 Arlington Street (across from the Castle) 10:00 am to 7:00 pm, Monday through Friday, noon to 5:00 pm, Saturday.

•  
*June 19*

**The AIDS Film Project.** Five award-winning films show the range and power of responses to AIDS. Praised by critics in Europe and America. Brattle Theatre, Harvard Square, 1:00 pm. *Benefit for Gay Community News.*

•  
*June 19*

**Julia & Co. in a Tribute to Michael Bennett.** Actress/singer Julia McGirt Nixon in her acclaimed memoir of the late director and choreographer. Nixon's powerful voice and 3 1/2-octave range made her the logical choice to replace Jennifer Holliday in the Broadway company of Dreamgirls. Regattabar, Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, 8:00 pm. Also June 20 and 21, Gifford House, Provincetown. *All performances benefit the Names Project.*



# "In Their Names"

## AN AIDS MEMORIAL FUND

Thanks to people across the region, Names Project/New England will be able to make significant contributions to a dozen organizations that fight AIDS. Hundreds of donations have already poured in, carrying us well past our goal of underwriting this display and enabling us to create this fund. The Boston Foundation has enthusiastically backed our effort with the offer of a dollar-for-dollar match (up to \$40,000) of money contributed to the fund.

We hope the list of organizations we have selected provides a sense of the needs across New England, and that it will inspire you to give generously "In Their Names."

### General AIDS Service Providers

The gay community confronted AIDS when everyone else was running from it. The community's pioneering work in establishing AIDS organizations and support services where none had existed, provided an invaluable model for the rest of the country. Buddy programs, safe sex literature and numerous other AIDS resources originated in the gay community. The following organizations serve all kinds of people throughout Massachusetts.

• **AIDS Action Committee** In less than six years, AAC has grown from a small, grassroots group into a multifaceted organization committed to providing service and education to everyone affected by AIDS. AAC has a volunteer base of close to 1,000 and a staff of over 50.

• **Fenway Community Health Center** As a major health center that has historically served the gay and lesbian community, FCHC has been involved in AIDS work since the epidemic began. Roughly 1/3 of patient visits are AIDS-related, and the Center's research on HIV transmission has won national

recognition. Next month, FCHC will open the state's first outpatient HIV treatment center, serving roughly 330 people (6,000 to 9,000 patient visits per year).

• **GLAD AIDS Law Project** Under the direction of Gay & Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, the AIDS Law Project provides legal representation to anyone experiencing AIDS-related discrimination in such areas as housing, insurance and employment.

### Black Community

Even though black people only represent 12% of the U.S. population 26% of PWAs are black, as are more than 60% of children with AIDS. For a variety of social and economic reasons, people in the black community are less informed about AIDS, are diagnosed later in the disease, and don't receive adequate mental, social or medical care when ill. Among the community's needs: culturally sensitive education, outreach, support for PWAs and their children, and even acknowledging the disease's presence.

• **Dimock Community Health Center** provides medical services and support groups for AIDS patients. It refers AIDS patients for home health care, advocacy, social services, and specialized medical care. Dimock educates community groups and conducts outreach, including distribution of brochures, bleach and condoms. Its latest effort is the development of an AIDS program for teens.

### Hemophiliacs

A disproportionate number of children with AIDS are hemophiliacs. Their families face doubled financial, medical and emotional burdens.

• **New England Hemophiliac Association** NEHA was the first group in the country to publish materials and brochures on AIDS for hemophiliacs. Working with adults and children who

are HIV-positive and their families, NEHA provides education, support groups, and advice on treatment.

### Haitian Community

The public association of AIDS with the Haitian community, and a cultural reluctance to admit to numbers and gender of sexual partners, have created an intra-community stigmatization. The majority of Haitians with AIDS rely on hospitals for care, as family members, in the face of severe economic and community pressures, often abandon them. Those who remain in the community almost always live in substandard and overcrowded conditions.

### The Haitian Community AIDS

• **Outreach Project** Only six months old, HCAOP was initiated to increase the ability of Boston's Haitian community to respond to AIDS and ARC. HCAOP provides direct services to individuals and families, helping to meet housing, financial, and emotional needs, and break down the stigma, denial, and guilt the community attaches to AIDS.

• **Cambridge Haitian-American Association** Provides services similar to those described above.

### Homeless

There is a growing population of people with AIDS in shelters. Statistics are scarce and unreliable, because homeless people rarely seek medical treatment. Staff often find PWAs only when they show up, critically ill, at the shelter. Currently, homeless PWAs are housed in shelters until they become so ill they require hospitalization.

• **Pine Street Inn** in addition to providing education, helps guests obtain testing (with consent), manage medication, and get to a hospital if necessary.



### Hospice Care

An unnecessarily high number of people with AIDS end their lives in impersonal and expensive hospitals. Hospices are among the few facilities that accept people with terminal illnesses who simply need a caring, comfortable environment in which to end their lives.

• **Hospice West** Starting next spring, Hospice West will provide care and emotional support for people with life-threatening illnesses, including AIDS, who no longer have a home for whatever reason. Hospice West will provide round-the-clock care for people nearing death, the first of its kind for PWAs in New England.

### Latino Community

Latino AIDS cases doubled between 1986 and 1987, making this community's caseload the fastest-growing in the country. Exacerbating this growth is the lack of Spanish-language AIDS information that is culturally suited to Latinos.

• **The Latino Health Network** works to build institutions to help the Latino community cope with AIDS. The network facilitated the establishment of the Latino AIDS Hotline. Currently, the network is organizing the first conference for Latino persons with AIDS from around Massachusetts. Members hope to establish an organization of Latino PWAs to speak for themselves and their community.

• **Latino AIDS Hotline** provides culturally appropriate bilingual counseling, advocacy, referrals and written information to the Latino community of Greater Boston. The hotline works to identify Spanish-speaking health care providers who can help Latinos deal with AIDS.

### I.V. Drug Users

I.V. drug users are socially, economically, and educationally disenfranchised people who don't use the system in any predictable or logical sense. Therefore, their awareness of AIDS is fragmentary, myth-laden, and often non-existent. The disease of addiction, with its major defense mechanism of denial, also operates to protect the active user from reality. Addicts are afraid, and they see the numbers of AIDS cases increasing.

• **Project TRUST** provides AIDS services for I.V. drug users and their partners. The clients' comfort with this project supports the belief that addicts *do* care about AIDS, *are* educable, and *can* change their behavior when supported in innovative ways. The project's message is, "We have information that may save your life, and we'll be here when and if you choose to come back."

### Prisoners

The prisoner population is in urgent need of attention yet is largely ignored. Recently, out of 250 women prisoners voluntarily tested for the AIDS virus, 100% tested positive. Seventy percent to ninety percent of all prisoners are I.V. drug users, at high risk for contracting the disease. Yet prisons have responded slowly to AIDS, failing to provide adequate medical and social services or substance-abuse support services. Those found to be HIV-positive or symptomatic for AIDS are sometimes held in isolation, often to their maximum sentence length or beyond.

• **Women and AIDS Program at MCI Framingham** This project of Social Justice for Women provides advocacy, case management and counseling to women prisoners who have tested positive for the AIDS virus. The program stresses prevention, education, substance-abuse treatment, family services, testing, spiritual support and community reintegration.

### Partners in Life, Inc.

Shattuck Hospital provides medical support to people for whom community services are not available or are inappropriate, including homeless and uninsured people, and prisoners. Partners works to enhance the quality of life for AIDS patients by paying for personal items, medication, family visits and funeral costs.

### Women

Increasing numbers of women and children—disproportionately minorities—are infected with the HIV virus, both through I.V. drug use and through unsafe sex with partners who engage in high-risk behaviors.

• **Women At Risk Network** works with female I.V. drug users, female sexual partners of I.V. drug users, and with prostitutes, providing information on AIDS prevention and treatment. The program includes plans to purchase a Winnebago for on-site workshops and to set up offices in motels that prostitutes frequent. WARN is a spin-off of Women, Inc., which has created a block of panels for the Names Project.

### Outside of Boston

The Names Project is pleased to contribute to the work of these groups across New England:

• **AIDS Project Worcester** • **Provincetown AIDS Support Group** • **AIDS Project/Maine** • **The New Hampshire AIDS Foundation** • **Vermont CARES** • **AIDS Project / Hartford** • **AIDS Project /New Haven** • **Latinos Unidos Contra SIDA/New Haven**



"...the very thought of it heals my heart."

## THE QUILT COMES TO NEW ENGLAND

The Names Project began with a simple idea: a quilt of handmade panels, each dedicated to someone who had died of AIDS. This idea – especially the familiar tradition of quilting – touched thousands of people. In just over a year, the Quilt has blossomed from Cleve Jones's single panel into a sea of 4,000 panels that covers an area larger than three football fields.

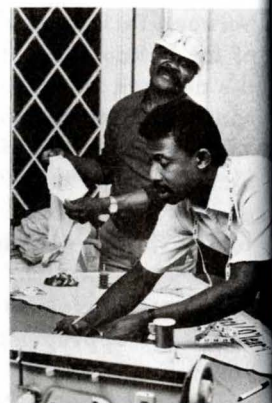
On these two pages we have included pictures from Boston quilting bees held over the last five months and comments from panelmakers' letters. We think these people are the real story of the AIDS epidemic: parents, neighbors, lovers, co-workers, friends and children left behind to puzzle out the meaning of a life cut short.



*"He lived life with a passion, and though he leaves us rich with memories, nothing can erase the ache of his passing, which bears witness to the depth of our love."*

Otto Coontz, Cambridge, in a letter about his friend, Chris Chlanda

The Quilt was born in San Francisco, whose gay community had been hit hard by the AIDS epidemic. Long-time political activist Cleve Jones made what would become the first panel of the Quilt—a 3-foot-by-6-foot banner in honor of his best friend, Marvin Feldman.



*"She lived with the pain and grief of her addiction and unfortunately her children did, too. But they did not give up [on] their mother. And, Lainey, we did not give up. We are fighting for all the other Lainey's out there. And this quilt is a symbol of our love for you that will never, ever die."*

Two women in a letter about their friend, Lainey H.

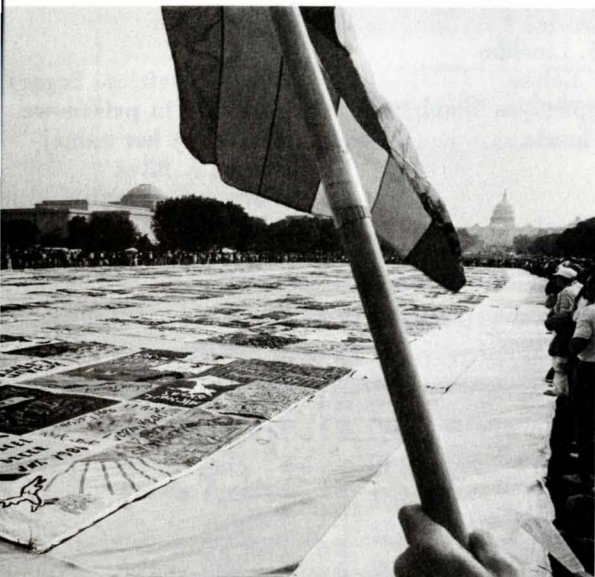


Jones completed his banner early in 1987; within six months, the Names Project was under way. Working out of a storefront in the City's Castro neighborhood, volunteers spread the word to other communities, and began to plan for the Quilt's first public showing, in October. They hoped to have 1,000 panels.



*"I hope that this quilt will serve to remind all of us that we do not have to make our journeys alone. I hope that my brothers and sister and I will be able to remember the lessons we learned by helping our father to die. I hope that the fact of all these memories, laid out with their edges touching, will help us to know that we live forever in the hearts of the people who love us."*

Melody L. Brazo, Cambridge, in a letter about her father, Bruce Allen Brazo



The Quilt surpassed San Francisco's most optimistic expectations when it was opened in Washington on October 11. Sewing around the clock in the last weeks of September - with new pieces arriving daily from across the country - the volunteers had assembled a Quilt with almost 2,000 panels. Thousands of people saw it during the march that weekend for gay and lesbian civil rights.

"Except for the sounds of weeping," The Washington Post wrote, "the crowd was hushed during the three-hour unfurling of the quilt....Spectators, including normally pushy reporters and camera crews, stood silently on the white fabric walkway that bordered the quilt, watching as four 8-person teams opened sections of the quilt like petals of a flower."



*"Friends of my son wrote to me and told me they put his name on the quilt. I would love to see his name - the very thought of it heals my heart."*

Anonymous letter to Names Project/New England



# Indoor Display

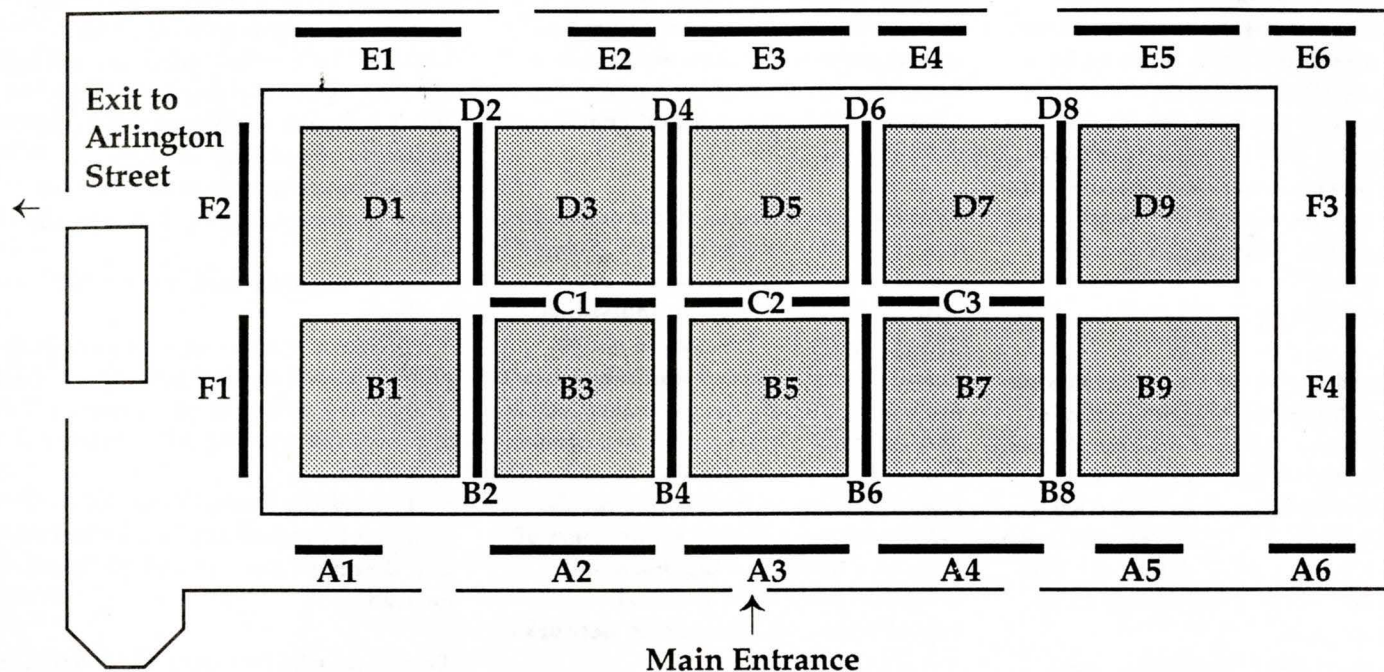
## Saturday Outdoor Display

On Saturday, June 18th, quilt blocks will be displayed outside on Arlington Street. Section G1 includes recently made New England panels; the panels in sections G2 through G8 are part of the national tour and are listed in the directory.

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| A4 William Amos Abrams                       | F4 [DFT]   | E1 Fr. Joe G.                               | G1 Ray B.                                      |
| E6 [Aids Action Committee Residence Program] | A1 La Hijita de Dios   | A2 Jorge                                    | F3 Jon Reilly                                  |
| F4 [AIDS Unit Caregivers]                    | A5 Dominic   | A5 Jose                                     | E2 Jack Rhodes                                 |
| A5 Allan                                     | E2 David J. Dopp   | E3 Jose A., Gary R., Steven A., David T.... | A5 Rock N. Richard                             |
| A6 Bob Andrews                               | F4 Paul R. Doucet  |   | A4 Paul Edward Richards                        |
| A5 Andrew                                    |  |   | G1 Paul Richards                               |
| A4 Bob Andrews                               | E2 Doug, Billy, Eric, Ricky, David, Jimmy                      | E1 Michael Kantrowitz                       | A4 Antonia Jose' Perez Riv                     |
| E6 Donald E. Angelica                        |  | G1 Robert Kelley                            |  |
| E5 Steven Ansolabehere                       | G1 [En Memoria de todos los latinos qu han fallecido del SIDA] | A6 David Klaphish                           | G1 [RJM]                                       |
| A5 Marc Anthony                              | A4 Jim Ezell   | F4 John Krieter                             | G1 R. Wayne Rose                               |
|  |  |   | A2 Rudolfo                                     |
| E3 Barry                                     | E3 Domenic Ferrara   | A2 Lainey H.                                | E4 John Ruggiero                               |
| A6 Gary Beauregard                           | E2 Bob Flood   | E5 Larry M.                                 |  |
| A6 Bill Benneville                           | E3 Bob Forget  | A4 Steven Lawn                              | E3 Liberato Santiago Jr.                       |
| G1 Bill Benneville                           | G1 [For the forgotten]   | A4 TJ & John Lenehan                        | E1 David Schermer                              |
| F3 Tony Berini                               | G1 Walter J. Foster  | F4 Bill Lewis                               | A6 Jonathan Schuster                           |
| A5 Bert                                      | A4 Frank S.  | F3 David Lewis                              | F3 Ray Scollan                                 |
| E4 Bill                                      | E2 [My Brother Fred]   | F3 Frank J. Linehan                         | A2 Scott H.                                    |
| A2 Billy P.                                  | G1 Fitz  | A2 Andrew Lobao                             | E1 Howard Defriesse Segars                     |
| A6 Bjorn                                     |  | F4 [Los Papagayos Members]                  | G1 [She died in prison—we cannot say her name] |
| A2 Lorna Bowling                             | A2 Dickie Garcia   | A2 Jimmy Lowie                              | E5 Robert J. Silva                             |
| E3 Joey Branden                              | A2 Gates   | A6 Bob M.                                   | E5 Wilfred E. Smith                            |
| E3 Joe Braz                                  | F3 Loretta Goldstick   | A1 Jimmy Mack                               | G1 Randy Snow                                  |
| A4 Bruce Allen Braz                          | E3 Norman Gotlieb  | E3 Jamie Mahoney                            | F4 [Society Workers with AIDS]                 |
| F4 Brendon                                   | A6 Fred Gray   | E1 Robert Manero                            | E4 Patrick Joseph Michael                      |
| A6 Richard Brook                             | G1 Gregory   | G1 Lenny Manoogian                          | Stocking                                       |
| E6 Ed Byrnes                                 | F3 Nolan Paul Griffiths  | E3 Gregg Marriner                           | E2 Karen Stuart                                |
|  |  | A5 Martha                                   | A4 Kevin Sullivan                              |
| F3 Juan Miguel Capellan                      | E6 Mark Halberstadt  | A1 Marty                                    | F3 Eric Sunderland                             |
| F3 Lynn B. Cass                              | A6 Mark Halberstadt  | A6 Kevin McConville                         |  |
| F3 Peter Chala                               | A4 Ken Hanneman  | E3 Dean McDowell                            | E1 Brian Todesco                               |
| A5 Charles                                   | F4 Glenn Hartranft   | E4 Dean McDowall                            | E1 Tom   |
| A5 Charles                                   | G1 W. David Hartwell   | E3 Gordon McGregor                          | E4 Phil Trull                                  |
| A6 Christopher Chlanda                       | E3 Rick Haas   | E6 Michael McIssac                          | E6 Mark Tsakirgis                              |
| F3 Joe Lyle Clevenger                        | G1 [In Memory of all Hatians fallen to AIDS virus]             | A6 Ron McKnight                             | E5 Robert S. Turley                            |
| A6 Stephen Clover                            | E3 Bob Heller  | E3 Russ Miller                              |  |
| A1 Joseph Cloyd                              | F4 Henry   | E5 Bob Miller                               | A4 Vladimir                                    |
| F3 Tom Conley                                | F4 Mark Hoyle  | E4 J. Victor Morales                        |  |
| A6 Conrad                                    | A1 Gleen Hult  | A1 Salvatore Morano                         | E4 David Wade                                  |
| E4 Costa                                     |  | E6 Richard Murphy                           | A5 Andrew J. Weiser                            |
| A5 Curtis                                    | G1 Hrank Irons   | A2 Robert D. Murphy                         | A1 Larry West                                  |
| E3 Conrad Cylkowski                          |  |   | G1 [We will remember your names]               |
| E4 Conrad Cylkowski                          | E5 Erick Jackson   | E1 Ed Nash                                  | E3 Peter Wiggin                                |
|  | F4 Craig James   | A2 Ney Ney                                  | A5 Bob Williams                                |
| F4 David                                     | A1 Richard Jarvah  | G1 Para Todos Los Ninos                     | A5 Will  |
| G1 [DCF]                                     | E2 Juan Jiminez  | A5 Michael J. O'Connor                      | A2 [Women Inc.]                                |
| A6 Deane                                     | A2 Jimmy   | G1 Michael O'Leary                          | A6 [WWW]                                       |
| F4 Dedicated to the United States            | A6 Joe   | A4 Jim O'Niel                               |  |
| G1 [Dedicated to US, Anyone with Memories]   |  | A4 James D. Patterson                       | G1 Marshall Yates                              |
|  |  | G1 Gregory Pearsons                         |  |
|  |  | F4 Nick Perls                               | E6 Raymond Zadrozny                            |
|  |  | G1 Lonnie Pickett                           | F3 Ray Zadrozny                                |
|  |  | E3 Burt Pierce                              | A2 Andrew Zdanowicz                            |
|  |  | E5 Robert Priest                            | F4 Mark Zielsdorff                             |
|  |  | A4 Steven Pritchard                         |  |
|  |  | F3 Donald Provost                           |  |
|  |  | F3 Larry Punch                              |  |
|  |  | A4 John J. Quinn                            |  |



# Indoor Display



The panels hanging on the lower level are recently completed panels from the New England area; those hanging from the ceiling are part of the National Tour and listed in the Tour Directory. Additional panels will be displayed outdoors on Saturday, please consult your local directory.

001 A1	053 B4	096 B8	132 C2	191 D1	239 B1	310 D7	372 B3	406 F1
006 B1	055 B4	098 B8	140 C2	196 D2	249 B1	311 D8	374 B3	407 B5
008 A3	056 B4	101 B8	146 C2	199 D2	251 D4	321 D8	376 B3	417 F1
012 A3	058 B4	104 B8	148 C2	206 D2	265 A2	330 D8	378 E3	418 F2
013 A4	063 B6	106 B9	154 C3	208 D2	283 D4	332 D8	379 B3	424 F2
018 A4	068 B6	107 B9	155 C3	216 A2	292 D6	333 D9	380 E3	428 F3
021 A5	074 B6	113 B9	157 B1	220 D3	293 D6	335 D9	385 B5	429 B5
024 A6	082 B6	121 B9	159 C3	228 D3	294 D6	350 D9	395 E4	430 F3
027 B2	083 B7	125 C1	162 C3	231 D3	296 D6	355 D9	398 E5	432 F4
031 B2	085 B7	126 C1	170 D1	232 D3	297 D7	356 E1	400 E5	433 F4
037 B2	088 B7	127 C1	179 D1	235 D4	299 D7	362 E1	402 E6	
043 B2	094 B7	130 C1	183 D1	238 D4	300 D7	364 E2	404 B5	

## LOCATING A PANEL

To find a panel, check the alphabetical directory in the program for the person's full name. If the name is not listed, please also check for initials, first names, or nicknames that the panelmaker may have used in creating the memorial.

The number preceding each name indicates the Quilt block in which that panel can be found. Use the listing above to determine if the Quilt block you are seeking is included in this display. The code next to the Quilt block number corresponds to the location in the display of that portion of the Quilt, as illustrated on the accompanying map. If you have any questions about the location of a panel, Quilt volunteers, wearing white caps, will be happy to assist you.

Quilt square D5 has been provided for those who wish to add a name or other remembrance to the Quilt.

## ADDITIONAL TOUR SPONSORS

The NAMES Project wishes to thank the following additional sponsors of the National Tour:

The Chicago Resource Center • Western Association of Visual Merchandising  
The Lesbian and Gay Chorus of Washington, DC • Protocare (Waltham, MA)



# Working to End the AIDS Epidemic

Over 300 Americans die from AIDS every week, one person every half hour. AIDS is a national crisis that can be halted only through public education and changes in the behavior that transmits the HIV virus. At the same time, we have a responsibility to ensure care for people with AIDS, people with ARC, and their friends and families.

## What You Can Do

### *Understand the routes of transmission.*

AIDS is a syndrome, a combination of many different illnesses that result from the weakening of the body's immune system, caused by a virus called HIV. You can't "catch" AIDS; it or ARC may develop after the virus enters the body, and there are only a few known ways that can happen:

- HIV enters the bloodstream most effectively by direct injection. Do not share needles for shooting drugs or tattooing unless you have cleaned and rinsed them thoroughly, first with bleach, then with water.
- HIV also enters the body by exchange of fluids during sex. Use a condom whenever sex includes penetration into the vagina, mouth, or anus.
- HIV can also be transmitted in medical settings through splash or needle-stick. Since no one can tell who may be HIV-positive, universal precautions should be taken by all medical personnel who deal with blood or other bodily fluids.

It is important to understand these routes of transmission, to be able to discuss them with people close to you, and to take precautions to protect yourself, your sexual partners, and anyone you know who is currently sharing needles for any reason.

**Support explicit education on safer sex practices and needle use.** Educate yourself and those close to you about risky practices and discuss how you will assess your own risk and make changes. Safer sex guidelines were developed by the gay male community to insure that people could continue to have sex while protecting each other against

transmission of the virus. In fact, HIV transmission has dropped dramatically among gay men in cities such as New York and San Francisco, largely due to a community approach and commitment to safer sex.

As the transmission of AIDS continues, it is important to realize that changes in sexual behavior and drug use are very difficult to make. For an individual struggling alone, the task is almost impossible. Direct and nonjudgmental discussions of sex, drugs, transmission and methods of prevention are crucial. We all have a contribution to make by placing a discussion of AIDS on the agenda in every setting we are part of: schools, churches, neighborhood groups, workplaces, political organizations and friendship networks.

## What We Can All Do

**Discrimination against people with AIDS.** Because AIDS has its highest incidence among groups of people already discriminated against—gay men, I.V. drug users, people of color—discussions of prevention and treatment often take on an "us" versus "them" tone. Testing, for example, becomes a way to isolate those who have or are suspected of having AIDS. Stigmatizing people with AIDS (PWAs) often keeps those most in need from seeking necessary information and treatment. People with AIDS or ARC who are also gay become vulnerable to further discrimination because they have no legal protection in terms of housing or employment. The myth that AIDS happens to certain kinds of people gives a false sense of safety to people outside of those categories. Rising transmission rates make it even more important to challenge these assumptions.

**How will society pay the bill?** Most services to people with AIDS are provided by private, volunteer agencies growing out of the gay community. What happens as the need for care outstrips the ability of these organizations to respond? Consider these problems, which have already appeared:

- Some hospitals turn away AIDS patients.
- Insurance companies routinely deny policies based on real or suspected HIV status, and refuse to pay expenses incurred for treating AIDS-related symptoms.
- Many of the limited forms of treatment available are experimental and therefore not covered by health insurance.

To people who live with AIDS daily, a number of critical needs have become

- Mandated health coverage for AIDS.
- National health insurance program.
- Increased capacity in drug treatment
- Live-in treatment programs, housing, and hospices for PWAs.
- Development of high-quality health care services for PWAs and people with ARC in every community.
- Increased funding for research and expanded drug trials.
- Formulation of realistic plans to accommodate the projected rise in cases over the next ten years.



# The People Who Brought You the Quilt

**The Steering Committee extends its deepest gratitude to the hundreds of people who made Names Project/New England a reality.**

## **Steering Committee**

Jackie Gelb, *co-ordinator*  
Karl Krueger, *co-ordinator*  
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