

Domestic Partners' Health Insurance Covered by Addison County Group

Cleland Selby

The Counselling Service of Addison County (CSAC) provided the domestic partners of its employees with health care benefits a month before Ben & Jerrys' initiated a similar policy. Each organization did so over a year ago without any of the public outcry which the City of Burlington has experienced over the past few months.

Holly Clook, personal manager for the CSAC stated "We like to think we were there early on. We feel that domestic partners should have the same rights as married partners, and this was one way we could make that happen." The CSAC established specific criteria to define "domestic partner" based mainly on the criteria used by the city of Santa Cruz, California.

According to Clook the employees at the Counselling Service were surveyed to determine their thoughts about the issue. Most of the employees were very positive about implementing the existing policy. Clook states that there are "not a significant number of persons being covered as domestic partners, probably less than five right now." For the past year CASC has covered the cost for partners of employees. "It has not been a real expense to implement this." ▼

Dykes To Watch Out For

By Alison Bechdel



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