

NGLTF's "Fight the Right" Expands to New England

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) Policy Institute this month added a third regional organizer to its "Fight the Right" program. Sue Hyde, a former staffer in NGLTF's D.C. main office, has been named as the Fight the Right New England field organizer.

Hyde has opened a Northeast field office in Cambridge, Mass. for the NGLTF Fight the Right program, which was founded this year to help state and local communities battle Colorado-style anti-gay initiatives. She will provide technical and organizational assistance to activists in the Northeast and participate in coalitions to fight anti-gay measures. Hyde previously worked for NGLTF as the Privacy/Civil Rights Project Director from 1986 to 1990.

"Sue's experience in organizing on the national, regional and local levels is a perfect fit for this position," said Peri Jude Radevic, who will become NGLTF Executive Director in November. "The addition of a field organizer in New England gives more depth to our Fight the Right program, which is a priority for NGLTF as Colorado-style initiatives multiply across the country."

In addition to offering assistance to activists battling anti-gay initiatives, the NGLTF Fight the Right program produces materials to counter the Far Right, conducts organizing and media trainings around the country and sponsors regional summits on countering the Right.

"The gay, lesbian and bisexual community needs to be at least as organized, informed, and savvy as the Right Wing in these battles," Radevic said. "We need to be sharing information, materials, skills and strategies to insure that Colorado stands lone in mandating discrimination."

The NGLTF Fight the Right program has produced a "Fight the Right Action Kit," which was recently cited by the Rev. Lou Sheldon of the Traditional Values Coalition and was highlighted in a Focus on the Family newsletter about Amendment 2 in Colorado. The 120-page Action Kit includes information on religious Right organizations; working with labor groups, the business community, religious denominations and traditional civil rights organizations; rural organizing; legal issues; campaign strategies; media advocacy; fundraising and field strategies.

To order the Fight the Right Action Kit, contact NGLTF at: 1734 14th St. N.W., Washington, DC 20009-4309 (202) 332-6483, TTY (202) 332-6219. American Online members can contact NGLTF through the Gay and Lesbian Forum and download the action kit directly. ▼

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