

# HORIZONS FOUNDATION BROCHURE

## Panel 1: Brochure Cover

Horizons Foundation (logo)

The Nation's First Lesbian and Gay Community Foundation

## Panel 2: Introduction

The HORIZONS FOUNDATION is a grantmaking organization that joins the financial resources of interested donors with the innovative ideas of lesbian and gay activists, artists, and service providers.

The Horizons Foundation fulfills its mission by

- Raising and granting funds to seed emerging programs, and build the capacity of existing organizations.
- Providing technical assistance to organizations and individuals, including writing effective grant proposals, and guidance on nonprofit administration.
- Encouraging philanthropic activism that sustains a tradition of philanthropic giving within the lesbian and gay community.

## Panel 3: History and Overview

Horizons was established in 1979, when a group of concerned lesbian and gay activists and business leaders sought to address the absence of funding for programs serving the community. Originally known as the Golden Gate Business Association Foundation, it was nation's first charitable foundation dedicated to supporting the needs of lesbians and gays. In 1980, the foundation began making grants to community organizations. Today, nearly two decades later, the tradition continues.

Horizons operates efficiently with a professional staff and volunteer Board of Directors. Its Advisory Committee consists of past board members and community leaders, and provides Horizons with technical expertise and a solid link with lesbian and gay community leadership.

Horizons has forged successful partnerships with the Bay Area United Way Task Force on Gay and Lesbian Issues, the Northern California Grantmakers, the San Francisco Foundation, as well as with major corporations and business throughout the Bay Area.

#### Panels 4, 5, 6: We Get Results

Since its inception in 1979, Horizons Foundation has been a consistent supporter of programs aimed at improving the quality of life for lesbians and gays throughout the nine-county Bay Area. Horizons funds programs in the areas of AIDS and health, arts and culture, public education and awareness, social and human services and civil rights.

- When Horizons Foundation provided the first-ever grants for an AIDS program in 1982, the recipient went on to become the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, the first and largest AIDS service organization in the world.
- When Horizons Foundation provided the first foundation grant to Project Open Hand in 1982, it helped founder Ruth Brinker begin fundraising efforts that today allow Open Hand to prepare approximately 6,000 meals per year.
- When Horizons Foundation provided a seed grant in 1982 for the Gay Olympic Games, an international community tradition and event – the Gay Games – began.
- When Horizons Foundation gave a grant to Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center (LYRIC) in 1990, it not only supported LYRIC's programming for gay and lesbian youth, it fostered the development of one of today's leading queer youth service providers.
- When Horizons Foundation provided funding for Karen Everett's 1994 film, *I Shall Not Be Removed: The Life and Times of Marlon Riggs*, the film went on to win a Silver Apple Award from the national Education Media Association and was broadcast on PBS and played in hundreds of theaters, festivals and classrooms.
- When Horizons Foundation funded the 1996 production of Luna Sea's *Skin: The Black and White of It*, the performance played to capacity crowds and touched audiences across racial, gender and generational lines.

- When Horizons Foundation provided technical assistance and funding to the Lesbian and Gay Senior Services Collaborative in 1996, it helped this emerging program prepare to provide services to isolated, frail and homebound lesbian and gay senior citizens.
- When Horizons Foundation provided grants to the Pacific Center for Human Growth and the Rainbow Community Center in 1997, it provided critically needed start-up resources for lesbian and gay community centers in Solano and Contra Costa counties.

### Panel 7: What's on the Horizon

In 1996, the Horizons Board of Directors adopted a five-year growth and development plan. It established three overarching strategies to guide Horizons Foundation into the next century:

- Increase Horizons' presence within the Bay Area lesbian and gay community, and among nonprofit and donor constituencies
- Expand Horizons' leadership role in educating the public about the importance of lesbian/gay philanthropy.
- Continue developing programs that respond to the diverse issues and needs in the lesbian and gay community.

### Panel 8: How You Can Help

#### DIRECT DONATIONS

We are pleased to accept your gift of support at any time. And we encourage monthly, quarterly, or annual pledges.

#### BEQUESTS

You can designate Horizons Foundation as a beneficiary of all--or a portion of--your estate.

#### UNITED WAY DONOR OPTION

You can specify Horizons as a recipient of your employee contribution through the United Way. (Some employers will match your contribution.)

#### SECURITIES AND REAL PROPERTY

Horizons can accept gifts of stock, equipment or real estate in accordance with charitable contribution laws.

#### INSURANCE

You can name Horizons Foundation as a beneficiary of your personal or work-provided life insurance.

#### THRIFT STORE ITEMS

Your donations of clothing and household items to the Community Thrift Store in San Francisco can be designated for Horizons Foundation.