

November 14, 1996

MEMORANDUM TO CONCERNED PARTIES

FROM: Judy Greenspan, Director
HIV/AIDS in Prison Project

RE: Difficulties faced by transgender/transsexual
prisoners at the California Medical Facility-Vacaville

It has recently come to my attention that transgender/transsexual prisoners at CMF-Vacaville are facing the following problems:

- 1) There are no support groups or any services for this population in the prison.
- 2) For some reason, most of the transgender prisoners are housed in the HIV unit even if they are not HIV+.
- 3) Transgender prisoners on the HIV unit are being refused access to hormonal therapies.
- 4) Transgender prisoners on the HIV Unit, particularly in V Wing, have been targetted by prison guards for unnecessary cell searches and discriminatory treatment.

After discussions with advocates for the transgender/transsexual communities, we have decided to call together a meeting to discuss remedying these problems. Your participation would be extremely helpful at this meeting which will take place:

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 5-7 p.m.
Hastings College of Law, 100 McAllister Street
3rd Floor, San Francisco (at Civic Center BART stop)

Please feel free to circulate this notice and to invite others to the meeting. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Loren Jones of the HIV/AIDS in Prison Project at (510) 834-5656, ext. 3189 or Cindy Chandler of the Women's Positive Legal Action Plan at (510) 839-7654.