



## Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays

Newsletter: (505) 268-7286

November 1998

General Information: (505) 343-7468

### "Youth Reaching Youth"

November 19th - 7:00 PM

Joy Soler is the Program Coordinator for "Youth Reaching Youth", a street outreach program for homeless and runaway youth. The program, developed by Youth Development Incorporated, reaches out to youth ages 13 to 21 by making them aware of the resources available to them. Recent statistics indicate that one fourth of GLBT youth that "come out" at home are then kicked out by their families. Come listen as Joy explains how "Youth Reaching Youth" can help these teens in crisis.

#### SPEAKERS BUREAU



Father Jack, Dickerson Watkins, and Sandy Lane following a speakers bureau presentation at Holy Family Catholic Church

PFLAG Albuquerque's Speakers Bureau has reached new heights of community education during the past month. Jean and Jim Genasci, Sandy Lane and Toots Obenshain presented programs to nearly 3000 parishioners during masses at Holy Family Catholic Church over

Coming Out Weekend. Following the mass presentations a meeting was held to provide further support and education for the Holy Family community. A special thanks to Armida Ramirez who not only translated for Sandy at the Spanish language mass but also translated the PFLAG Albuquerque flyer into Spanish. Father Jack and Father Richard are to be commended for their loving courage and leadership in this effort.

Western New Mexico University and Silver City will never be the same again. They now have a PFLAG and a GSA (Gay Straight Alliance). Jean, Sandy and Toots presented Respecting Difference: Creating a Safe Campus for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Students at a recent conference at WNMU to address and reduce violence and discrimination on the campus. Thanks to the efforts of Alice Diaz, Deb McCormick, many members of the g/l/b/t and straight community, the willingness and hospitality of Dr. Gilbert and WNMU, hearts were opened, communications initiated and plans made for November PFLAG and GSA meetings. Yea!!!! Silver City.

But that's not all members of the Speakers Bureau have been doing. "On October 7th, the Genascis joined several Gay/Lesbian panel members at UNM Medical School speaking at an "Alternative Life Style" session held for second year medical students, in the "Human Sexuality and Reproduction" class. Following the panel presentation, the film "Trevor" was shown, and panel members joined the small group discussions."

The education goes on and on! Wouldn't you like to be a part of this magnificent effort? Our next Speakers Bureau training will be Saturday November 21 from 10am to 2pm. Our last scheduled session had to be canceled because our trainer extraordinaire, Karen Kinsman and her life partner Mary Beth Schubauer became parents of a bouncing baby boy, Zachary Allyn. Congrats Karen and Mary Beth!!

Call Sandy at 281-7525 to reserve your space at the training.



**MISSION:** Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays promote the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons, and their families and friends, through **SUPPORT** - to cope with an adverse society; **EDUCATION** - to enlighten an ill-informed public; and **ADVOCACY**, - to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights. PFLAG provides the opportunity for confidential dialogue about sexual orientation, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.

**Meeting:** The third Thursday of every month.

**Next Meeting Date:** November 19th, 1998 - 7:00 PM

**Location:** Metropolitan Community Church of Albuquerque

2404 San Mateo Place NE (behind La Quinta Motel, just northeast of I-40 and San Mateo Blvd.)

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