

BENEFITS

The Benefits working group is currently working on defeating the proposed cuts in Medicaid, general relief and housing. Another ongoing project is to expand health care access to the millions of Americans with inadequate insurance.

The long-term goal is for this country to provide quality and affordable health care for all. The group will be developing strategies for universal health insurance and building coalitions with other health groups.

RUBBER FAIRIES

This group goes out to gay cruising areas to distribute condoms, whistles and safe sex information while acting as a safety patrol. Join the Rubber fairies on weekends in front of the Ramrod and help prevent the spread of HIV disease.

I.V. LEAGUE

ACT UP/Boston's needle exchange working group. This group operates a needle exchange program around the city and also distributes information on clean needles and safer-sex practices. Massachusetts remains one of the few states in the country that still criminalizes the possession of hypodermic needles. As the rate of infection among IV drug users escalates, the importance of the work of this group is clearly demonstrated.

HOUSING

This group was instrumental in getting Mayor Flynn to start the AIDS Housing Initiative and the state to allocate funds for AIDS housing projects. As a result, Boston now has the most innovative housing program for people with AIDS. The Housing group will continue to push for comprehensive AIDS housing policies and for the allocation of dollars to implement those policies.