

money, emergency support or operational grants to scores of projects. In addition to funding, Astraea also provides technical assistance, training, skills-building and leadership development to lesbians organizing on a wide range of fronts.

That funding has made a measurable difference in all our lives. And that's why we urge you to care about what Astraea does — and to care enough to contribute. Astraea needs women like you, because women like us need Astraea. We need the cultural... legal... health... organizing... media and other projects that rely on Astraea to help pay their bills.

By becoming an Astraea supporter, you'll join a true grassroots, multiracial, multicultural force that empowers lesbians to overcome oppression and isolation.

Listen, we all get tons of mail — and this is yet another in the pile. But I'll venture that the check we're asking you to write to Astraea is different from nearly all the others you might write. That's because this donation is all about giving to ourselves. It's a gift of lesbian pride and lesbian commitment towards a safer and freer lesbian future — for us and the generations to come.

Every week, Astraea gets a request for funding from another innovative project working to meet the health or economic needs of lesbians... to organize lesbians in the workplace... to increase our visibility in the media... or to celebrate our experience in literature or video. These projects are all about believing in our community's future. Urv and I believe in lesbians. And we believe that giving through Astraea is an effective way to secure that future for all of us.

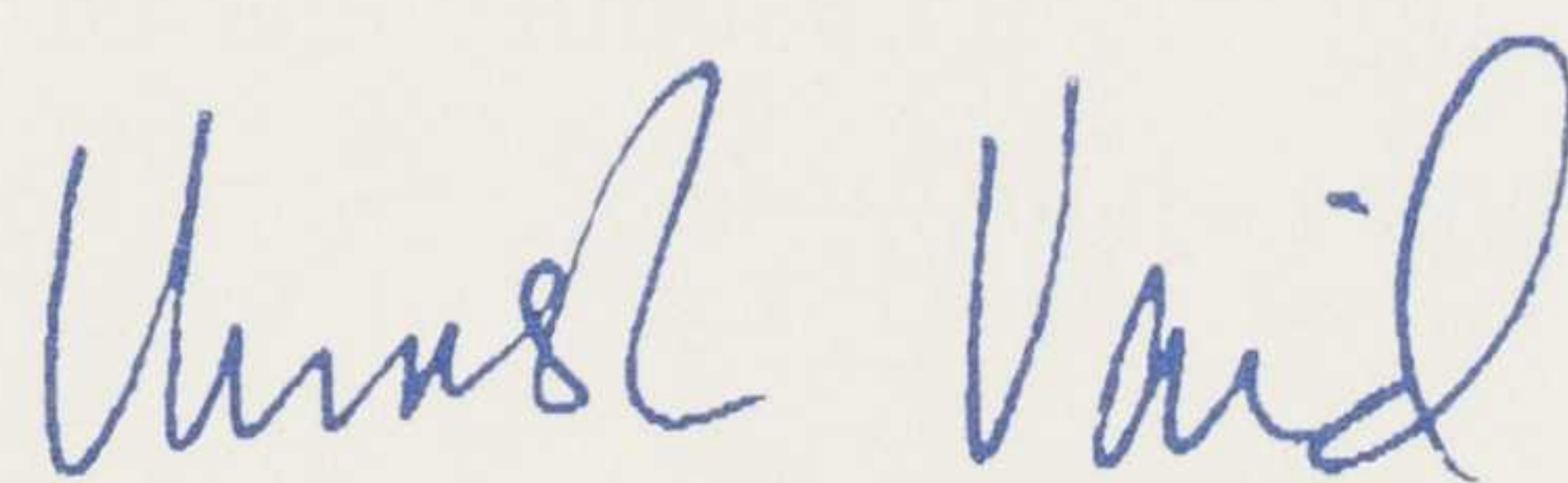
Please consider sending a tax-deductible donation to Astraea right after you read our letter. Your contribution of \$25, \$35, \$100 or more — whatever you can give is very important — will be added to contributions from thousands of other lesbians around the country, and applied to one or more grants in the next funding cycle.

Thanks for hearing us out! We hope you will give as generously as you can.



Kate Clinton

P.S. We've each picked five of our favorite Astraea grant recipients, and described them on the enclosed sheet.



Urvashi Vaid

They're the kind of organizations your contribution today will help Astraea support tomorrow. Please join us in supporting Astraea!