



Catholic Charities of the East Bay
HIV/AIDS in Prison Project

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Bernard Hirsche, Conference Chair
Robin Gorna, Community Planning Committee Chair
12th World AIDS Conference
Congrex Sweden AB
Attn: AIDS 98
P.O. Box 5619
SE-11486 Stockholm, Sweden

Dear Mr. Hirsche and Ms. Gorna,

As the Director of Catholic Charities' HIV/AIDS in Prison Project, I am writing to wholeheartedly support the participation of Scott Cozza as a presenter in the 12th World AIDS Conference to be held in Geneva. He will require a scholarship to attend. I recommend Mr. Cozza be granted a scholarship. He has much to offer the participants of the conference.

I have known and worked with Scott Cozza for the past 5 years on projects and issues pertaining to the impact of incarceration on prisoners living with HIV/AIDS. Mr. Cozza brings a wealth of experience and dedication to the lives of prisoners concerned about the HIV/AIDS epidemic behind the walls. Mr. Cozza is responsible for developing a model HIV/AIDS/STD peer education program for men prisoners at the California Medical Facility in Vacaville, California, U.S.A. This program probably houses one of the largest numbers of prisoners with HIV/AIDS in the U.S.A. Mr. Cozza's curriculum will undoubtedly be replicated in other prisons around the state and throughout the country.

I direct the only statewide advocacy project for prisoners with HIV/AIDS in California. I am also the former AIDS Information Coordinator of the ACLU National Prison Project. I have worked as an advocate for prisoners with HIV/AIDS and peer educators for the past ten years. I have always wanted to bring the concerns of the incarcerated to the International AIDS Conferences held around the world. I believe that Scott's participation in the 12th World AIDS Conference will strengthen the voice of prisoners with HIV/AIDS in this international meeting.

I urge you to approve Scott Cozza's application as a presenter and for a scholarship and to expand the participation of advocates for the incarcerated who are truly fighting for their lives on the front lines of this epidemic.

Sincerely,

Judy Greenspan
Director