

# **LGBT History Project of the LGBT Center of Central PA**

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## **Documents Online**

**Title:** Betty Finney House Newsletter

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**Contact:**

LGBT History Project  
Archives & Special Collections  
Waidner-Spahr Library  
Dickinson College  
P.O. Box 1773  
Carlisle, PA 17013

717-245-1399

**[archives@dickinson.edu](mailto:archives@dickinson.edu)**

BECAUSE WE HAVEN'T  
FORGOTTEN THERE'S NO  
PLACE LIKE HOME.

FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS,  
THE HOME IS OFTEN ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS LOST.

*Most everyone is aware of the devastation that HIV/AIDS causes. Yet there are many who don't realize how life's "givens" can disappear when the illness strikes. And so often, whether it's due to loss of income, lack of support from family and friends – or just plain discrimination – something as basic to life as the home becomes an early casualty in a person's battle to survive.*



WE CAN BE A HOME...  
OR JUST A HAND.

*The Betty Finney House is a four-unit apartment building designed to serve HIV infected people who don't require skilled nursing care ... just some personal assistance. Conveniently located near downtown Lancaster and easily accessible via public transportation, the House provides shelter on the basis of medical condition, income, and other residence options available to the individual.*

*A full-time, non-resident consultant is responsible for procurement and coordination of tenant support services. Volunteers provided by the Lancaster AIDS Project, The Spanish American Civic Association, Hospice of Lancaster County, The Gathering Place, Visiting Nurse Association Hospice, Crispus Attucks, Urban League, local churches, and the community assist tenants with personal care, household chores, baby-sitting, transportation, and other daily activities.*

*Although the Betty Finney House began as a "building," it was soon recognized that our community needed much more. Even upon opening, there was a waiting list, and many families were too large for the space available. To meet this need The Extension Program was created to*

*allow people to find and maintain themselves in housing suitable to their needs. Security deposits and monthly rental supplements were subsidized on an ongoing basis. Additionally, needs of the family and especially the children involved, were addressed, making every effort to prevent homelessness and to minimize disruption of their homes and lives.*

*As the battle to conquer HIV/AIDS continues, each day the far reaching effects of this disease become more evident ... and the Betty Finney House becomes more involved.*

RESTORING DIGNITY  
WITH CARE.

*Gone are the days of stereotyping persons with HIV/AIDS as being gay, intravenous drug users, and prostitutes. People from all walks of life – including their families – are affected by this disease every day. And, as always, these suffering people need caring and compassion. Day by day, as the problem worsens, the Betty Finney House is here to help.*

*Although assisting with the housing needs of afflicted persons continues to be our primary goal, we've always recognized that, more than anything, people are at stake – human beings of infinite worth who feel devalued as a result of the undeserved stigma attached to HIV/AIDS. So beyond a roof over their heads, the Betty Finney House works to provide a positive living environment, coordinating community services to assure that those served receive the practical, emotional, and spiritual resources they need to maintain dignity and control over their lives.*

YOUR THOUGHTFUL GIFT  
CAN HELP GIVE SOMEONE A  
PLACE TO CALL HOME.

*An estimated fifteen hundred Lancaster Countians may be infected with HIV. And as is true most everywhere, the number is growing. Your donation of time, suggestions, or money can truly make a difference in the life of a person with AIDS – especially when you consider the degree of personal suffering they must endure.*

*With the Cooperation of the City of Lancaster, The Betty Finney House has established a memorial garden in the Northwest Corridor Park; of those who have died of AIDS.*

*If you would like to help the Betty Finney House Corporation, or if you are an HIV infected person who could benefit from our services, please call us at (717) 396-8689.*

*Please detach and mail with your donation.*

I WOULD LIKE TO HELP THE  
BETTY FINNEY HOUSE RESTORE  
DIGNITY WITH CARE.

Enclosed is my donation in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to volunteer my time. Please call me.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_



BETTY  
FINNEY  
HOUSE

Restoring Dignity  
With Care.



## **In Memory of Nick Stathis**

As many of you know, Log Cabin veteran Nick Stathis recently passed away after a difficult struggle with leukemia. After 27 years of dedicated service, Nick was an integral part of the restaurant's history, and he will certainly live on in Log Cabin lore for years to come. His family--wife Dora and daughters Faith Veronis and Anthea Karamanos--asked us to thank the many of you who knew Nick and enjoyed his gracious service for your kind words of sympathy and support. He will indeed be missed.

## **Log Cabin Helps Make House a Home**

On Saturday October 5, The Log Cabin will join organizer extraordinaire Michelle Sheaffer at the Iris Club in Lancaster to assist the

fundraising efforts of the Betty Finney House. This corporation was founded here in 1988 to help people infected with HIV live in a home-like setting while receiving the care they need. Over the years, this non-profit organization has grown to provide personal care, help with household work, transportation, and even subsidies for rent and living expenses when necessary. The Betty Finney House is devoted to keeping families affected by HIV/AIDS together while attending to daily needs that often separate families living with this disease.

The evening at the Iris Club features a silent and live auction, music and dancing, and "grazing" at restaurant booths designed to look like homes. The Iris Club will be transformed into a party village, and the evening promises to be one of the

finest of the Lancaster benefit season. Many area restaurants are donating their time and food to the cause, and we are proud to show our support for the Betty Finney House Mission. For details on ticket information and on how you can help support this foundation, call the Betty Finney House at (717) 396-8689.

## **Welcome New Catering Coordinator**

Julie Grove Ryscavage has recently joined our staff following an extensive career in restaurant management in the Philadelphia area. Julie, who grew up in Lancaster, has returned to the area and will be assisting us on our catering projects. Join with us in extending a special welcome to her as she begins a busy season of catered events.