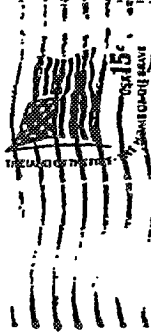


SAINT JOSEPH'S RECTORY
345 WAVERLEY STREET
BELMONT, MASS. 02178

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Most Rev. Thomas V. Daily, Chancellor
2121 Commonwealth Avenue
Brighton, MA. 02135

Personal

Isn't it time
there was a
special place
for gay people
and their
families?



The majority of gay men and women today find little help in their struggles to overcome negative stereotypes, to build responsible and loving relationships, to age creatively, or to maintain links with their families.

Exodus Center, a nonprofit resource founded to help sexual minorities and their families achieve positive self-images, believes *the essence of being whole is being who you truly are*. Because ignorance and conflict prevent people from being themselves, Exodus also works to create a more enlightened society. It does so by educating those who seek a better understanding of the many dimensions of human sexuality.

The current services of Exodus include seminars, psychological and spiritual (nondenominational) counseling, and the development of educational materials. These are designed to:

- Provide sound information and positive role models.
- Create a forum for sharing concerns and rebuilding bonds between people and their families.
- Educate professionals whose effectiveness requires a comprehensive understanding of human sexuality.

What is unique about Exodus is that before long these services will be offered in a rural New England retreat facility — a special place away from everyday pressures and distractions which will be available to men and women from across the country.



Exodus
Center

Picture a large rambling structure with comfortable accommodations for fifty people. Set in the privacy of tall pines and rugged stone walls, it will have a warm and spacious community room, a well-stocked library, a country kitchen, complete conference facilities, and quiet, airy guest rooms.

Men and women will come to the Center with family members who are struggling to be supportive, with a partner seeking to strengthen their relationship, or by themselves, wanting a positive sense of community or a place to think things through. The Center will emphasize:

Educational:

- ① Special programs designed for lesbian and gay parents, aging gays, parents of gays, those concerned with alcohol and drug abuse . . .
- ② Seminars and internships for mental health professionals, pastoral and school counselors, doctors and nurses . . .

Short-Term Counseling:

- ③ For individuals who wish to develop more positive attitudes about themselves.
- ④ For couples who want to build more enriching relationships.
- ⑤ For families who seek to examine old myths and apprehensions and become more fully informed.

Community Support:

- ⑥ Burn-out prevention for those working for the benefit of sexual minorities.
- ⑦ Improvement of communication and understanding between men and women within the community.
- ⑧ Conference space made available for the special events of community service organizations.

Staff selection for the Center will give equal weight to professional competency and well-integrated personalities. Throughout the year, outside specialists will be invited to join the staff in designing and leading programs.

Guests may choose to stay for a long weekend or a couple of weeks, depending upon their needs. Beyond the more structured and scheduled events available, individuals will have the opportunity to use the library, join in recreational activities, or create their own agenda — perhaps a group "rap" session or a quiet walk in the woods.

Costs to guests will be affordable with sliding scale fees and special financial arrangements offered when possible.

To create the Center, Exodus must raise \$400,000. This will buy accessibly located property, furnishings and library materials, and hire a first-rate staff.

Funding for this important project is being sought from a variety of sources, including government and foundation grants. But the vast majority of Exodus funding must come from individuals. As one of the few tax-exempt organizations in the country working for sexual minorities, Exodus Center may receive tax-deductible contributions in a variety of ways:

- ① A gift of cash, marketable securities, real estate, or other assets.
- ② Installment donations on a monthly or biannual basis.
- ③ Gifts in memory of a friend or family member.
- ④ A bequest in a properly drawn will.
- ⑤ Designation of Exodus as irrevocable beneficiary on a life insurance policy.

We need your support. With your help we will have that "special place." Isn't it time?



Incorporated in 1975, Exodus Center began as the *Dream of Boston street priest Paul Shanley*, nationally acclaimed minister to sexual minorities. A former lecturer in clinical psychology at Harvard, Fr. Shanley has received a variety of civic awards for his work with young adults. *Exodus is a response to the enormous needs he has heard verbalized year after year.*

Donna Taylor, Co-Director, is a psychotherapist with a master's degree in counseling psychology and certification in personnel administration. A former Administrative Director of a suburban private mental health facility, her duties encompassed charge of staff, fiscal management, and program development. Her clinical work with individuals and groups focuses on special issues of women, family systems, and couple dynamics. She has also led assertiveness training workshops.



Brian McNaught, Co-Director, has been working full time within the gay community since 1973. He is an award-winning writer, lecturer, and peer counselor. A journalism graduate, his work appears in a variety of gay, religious, and secular publications. He has twice been named one of the Outstanding Young Men in America and in 1979 received the Margaret Singer Award from Syracuse University for his contribution to the public's understanding of homosexuality.

