



December 9, 1994

Dear Friend:

As a donor to Astraea, you have helped fund projects and organizations that historically have been among the most underfunded in all society --- lesbian programs. Your financial support is helping fledgling projects as well as experienced organizations to build community and their own base of local support. These lesbian projects turn to Astraea as one of the very few institutional funding sources eager to help them achieve their goals.

This fall I sent you our newsletter which described the 70 organizations, projects and individuals who benefitted from Astraea's grants and training programs. We distributed \$218,510 in grants and provided countless hours of technical assistance and workshops this past year. The funds to support these grants and other programs came from you and people like you - lesbians and friends of lesbians - who understand what is at stake: survival, health, human and civil rights, and community for millions of lesbians. And, that's what's most important!

Astraea receives hundreds of proposals from worthwhile organizations. Just about every one of them has the potential to make a positive and lasting difference in the lives of lesbians from rural and urban areas who confront an incredibly diverse range of needs and opportunities.

We're counting on your renewed support. Your gift can help turn the corner for lesbian projects throughout the country fighting fear, ignorance, violence and discrimination. They are "out" there for all of us whether its fighting the right, providing health care services, offering courses in self-defense, promoting leadership and empowerment among lesbian, gay and transgender youth or creating media and theater.

As reinforced by the recent election, we cannot rely on most politicians to protect our rights -- we must constantly build our movement, our organizations, our communities, our future. We will *not* win our struggle overnight. It demands leadership, resources and years of dedication.