



**THE GAY FAMILY
FOUNDATION**

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Gay Family Foundation, LTD is the recipient of \$331,328 Grant

To provide Program Support – Capacity Building and Community Education within the Baltimore Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA)

Baltimore, MD – March 1, 2006, The Baltimore City Health Department awarded the Gay Family Foundation (GFF) a \$331,328.00 grant to provide Capacity Building and Community Education to the Baltimore EMA. GFF plans to use the funding to implement two separate and distinct initiatives: 1) to provide Capacity Building Programs and 2) to implement Community Education Programs the encompass consumer support; Leadership, Empowerment, Advocacy and Participation (LEAP) programs; health fairs to raise awareness of the availability of Ryan White Title I medical and support services to persons who are uninsured/underinsured; and to implement specifically targeted education and outreach in zip codes with high HIV sero-prevalence rates. These objectives will be achieved using a three-pronged approach: 1) collaborating with public/private partners to provide on-going Positive Self Management trainings, 2) information dissemination through E-Learning that provides opportunities for providers and consumers to garner information regarding advances in HIV/AIDS education and treatment, and 3) partner with Ryan White Title I providers to create an Advocacy training center.

GFF is a Maryland nonprofit organization with offices in Washington, DC and Baltimore Maryland. Founded in 2003, GFF is the premier business resource solution for LGBT individuals, families and communities. Our mission is to provide technical assistance, professional resources and educational opportunities to the LGBT (Lesbian, gay bisexual, and transgender) community, and to strengthen the provider network which provides direct services to this community. Family, in its various incarnations as singles, couples, parents, is one of the many cornerstones of the LGBT community, and is at the heart of the Gay Family Foundation. In fact, the unique forms of Family that permeate the LGBT community created the very need and the mission of the Gay Family Foundation: to encourage, inform support, and empower our community by providing services which ensure social, financial, legal and medical protection. To this end GFF offers a comprehensive network of professional resources and technical assistance product areas. These practice areas range from health and legal services to financial planning and capacity building services specifically targeted to meet the unique needs of the LGBT community and those who service this community.

To find out more about GFF, please visit us at www.gffonline.org.