



GLBTI AVC Inc

Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Intersex Anti-Violence Committee Inc.

ABN 99 413 168 752

www.glbtavc.org.au

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION PACK

MISSION STATEMENT

Our aim is to raise awareness of homophobia and homophobic related violence in the twin cities in an effort to reduce the incidence and impact of homophobic related crime.

WHY WE WERE FORMED

Following an increasing series of incidents of harassment and violence against gay and lesbian community members, the QLD Aids Council (QUAC) was bombed in June 1999. Not only did this event send shock waves around our community, shortly after this the Regional Director was stabbed in the neck with a syringe as he returned to work after his lunch break. The Townsville/Thuringowa community response to this violence was swift and decisive. A number of concerned community members banded together to form the Anti-Violence Committee. We have grown from this time and our supporters include representatives from the Anti-Discrimination Commission of Queensland, Education Queensland, Queensland Association for Healthy Communities (formally the Qld AIDS Council), Family Planning Queensland, SQWISI (Self-health for QLD Workers In the Sex Industry), Queensland Police Service, Relationships Australia, Girlzone, and Department of Communities, as well as business and community groups, individuals and Townsville City Council's City Safe Program. We have managed to retain our grass roots links.

HOW DO WE ACHIEVE OUR AIMS?

Since 1999 the AVC has achieved many great things, much of this made possible by volunteer time and labour. In 2000-2001 the AVC received 1 year of non-recurrent federal funding. The AVC meet monthly and continue to work on many projects. Some examples of what the AVC has achieved includes:

Public Awareness / Community Events

- Public Awareness (stalls, print media, television and radio)
- Stalls at Neighborhood watch day (2002), Cultural Festival (2003), TCC Family Summit (2006)
- Conference presentations – Education QLD, Brisbane 2005; Safe Communities, Mackay 2004
- Report the Violence campaign (2001)
- Safe Places project (funded project 2000)

Education

- High Schools, James Cook University, Lifeline telephone counsellors, Police Recruits

Advocacy

- Lobbying for legislative change to existing discrimination for GLBTI people.
- Met with the Federal Shadow Attorney General to discuss same-sex marriage (2004)
- Met with a State member re: exemptions to the QLD Anti-Discrimination Act prior to its implementation (2002).
- Made presentations at the historic first sitting of Parliament outside Brisbane in Townsville (2002)
- Designed and conducted a safety survey of LGBTI people in the Townsville Thuringowa area.
- Presented the safety survey findings to the 1st QLD Safe Communities Conference, Mackay (2004)
- Conducted a Youth Forum (2003)
- Participated in the HREOC 'Same Sex: Same Entitlements' National inquiry into discrimination (2006).
- 2004 - commenced an anti-vilification case that is ongoing.

Capacity Building

- Networking
- Establishment of a Volunteer Program (2001)
- Assisted the Queensland Police Service in establishing and maintaining a GLBT Police Liaison Officer network in the twin cities.
- Acting as a resource to agencies seeking advice on LGBTI issues.

Resource Development

- Production and Distribution of Resources (Regurgitator poster produced in 2001 with State Govt. funding)
- Production of a poster to promote the LGBTI Police liaison program (Problem-oriented policing funding)

CONTACT DETAILS

Website: <http://www.glbtavc.org.au>
Postal address: PO Box 2410, Townsville QLD 4810.
Email: info@glbtavc.org.au

MEETINGS

Meetings are held on the Second TUESDAY of the month – 1pm at NQDVRS
North Queensland Domestic Violence Resource Service,
Level 4 NorthTown on the Mall,
280 Flinders Street, Townsville QLD.

MEMBERSHIP

FEEs - are for the financial year. Current rates:\$5 (\$2 concession).

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP – You may join as an Individual member (concession rate available) or as a representative of an Organisation, or as BOTH.

Please note: Organisations do NOT have voting rights.

Membership gives individuals or organisations a voice in the AVC. Members may not individually represent or speak on behalf of the AVC unless authorised to do so by the executive committee.

WHY JOIN THE AVC ???

Are you interested in LGBTI issues?

Do you oppose Homophobia and homophobic violence?

Membership to the AVC allows you to network with service providers and community members on issues that are of importance to the AVC - a diverse, interesting and passionate group of people who bring a variety of skills and ideas to make things happen. The AVC charges ahead with volunteer labour – maybe you could assist...

Your membership fee goes towards the basic costs incurred in maintaining a committee and supporting the ongoing work of the AVC.

As a member you are encouraged to attend meetings if you are able, and you will receive minutes of the meetings. If you have email you may receive relevant information on LGBTI issues, such as surveys, TV programs, new resources and research, current media issues etc.

From time to time the AVC holds stalls at various community events – maybe you would be willing to staff a stall for a few hours?

CURRENT LEGAL MATTERS

Currently the AVC is engaged in legal proceeding regarding anti-vilification. As this is a test case, it is important that members are aware of the sensitivity of the case and adhere to confidentiality until the matter is resolved. Members may not divulge any information regarding this case to any one outside the AVC. Please note – the media policy (below) specifically identifies how communication on this matter is to be handled. If/once your membership is approved details of the case may be further discussed with you.



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MEDIA POLICY

It is important for all members to be aware of the media policy

GLBTI AVC Inc MEDIA POLICY

The GLBTI AVC Inc. is to elect a primary media spokesperson. If he/she is unavailable, a second media spokesperson appointed by the group will assume the role. No other person is authorised to make comment on any issue pertaining to the GLBTI AVC Inc.

The media spokesperson has been elected to speak on any issues related to the objects and constitution of the GLBTI AVC Inc.

Media statements can be reactive (requests from the media) and/or proactive (media releases, other approaches from the GLBTI AVC to the media).

Before any contact with the media, the Spokesperson must contact at least 2 other full members to get approval for the contact and for the general flavour of comments to be made. As soon as practicable afterwards, all members will be informed.

Any media statements issued do not necessarily reflect the views of member organisations who are Honorary members.

Individual members can write 'Letters to the editor' under their individual hand. But if representing the AVC, letters must be approved by at least two other full members. As soon as practicable afterwards, all members will be informed.

A copy of all media is to be held by the Secretary of the GLBTI AVC Inc.

FOR 2006/7.

Primary Media Spokesperson : Colin Edwards
Secondary Media Spokesperson: Sharon Isle
Secretary: Jackie Kneipp