
Finding Aid to the Healing Alternatives Foundation Records, 1986-1994

Collection Number: MSS 94-55

UCSF Library and Center for Knowledge Management, Archives and Special Collections

Finding Aid Written By:

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Date Completed:

October 2007

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Collection Summary

Collection Title: Healing Alternatives Foundation records

Date (inclusive): 1986-1994

Collection Number: MSS 94-55

Creators : Healing Alternatives Foundation Records

Extent: Number of containers: 1 boxLinear feet: .3

Repository: The UCSF Library and Center for Knowledge Management, Archives and Special Collections

University of California, San Francisco530 Parnassus AvenueSan Francisco, CA 94143-0840Phone: (415) 476-8112Fax: (415) 476-4653Email: <http://www.library.ucsf.edu/collres/archives/contactform.html>URL: <http://www.library.ucsf.edu/collres/archives/>

Abstract: Records of the Healing Alternatives Foundation, including meeting minutes, correspondence, planning documents, publicity, newsletters, design/artwork files, funding sources and strategies.

Languages Represented: Collection materials are in English

Physical Location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the library's online catalog:

<http://www.library.ucsf.edu/> .

Access

Collection is open for research.

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Healing Alternatives Foundation Records, MSS 94-55, The UCSF Library and Center for Knowledge Management, Archives and Special Collections, University of California, San Francisco.

Alternate Forms Available

There are no alternate forms of this collection.

Related Collections

Guerrilla Clinic Records, MSS 90-12

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

AIDS (Disease)--United States--History

Community Foundations

AIDS activists--United States

Healing Alternatives Foundation

Acquisition Information

The Healing Alternatives Foundation Records were donated to the UCSF Library 1994.

System of Arrangement

Arranged to the folder level.

Processing Information

Processed by Bill Walker, Robin Chandler, and Josue Hurtado.

Organizational History

Healing Alternatives Foundation (HAF) was formed as a "buyer's club" in April of 1987 in direct response to the need for access to treatment information and products. It was founded with the belief that HIV/AIDS can be a treatable, chronic disease requiring both early preventative measures and aggressive treatment of opportunistic infections. That philosophy is accompanied by the conviction that people with HIV should become informed about and involved with their own program of treatment and that treatment options should be both available and affordable.

By pooling resources, founders were able to develop direct services to people with AIDS, who join HAF in order to purchase materials at bulk prices. By 1993, membership was around 6,000 and was growing steadily. Members come to HAF for information about treatments, access to various low-cost products, and the opportunity to share with other members. HAF also maintains an extensive library on HIV, human immunity, and alternative healing practices and therapeutics.

Scope and Content of Collection

This collection documents both this particular organization and the phenomena of buyer's clubs, which have been a major source of unapproved medications and other treatment modalities since the mid-1980s. Among the documents in the first folder of the collection is one from 1986 titled "Federally Unapproved Medications for the Treatment of AIDS and ARC; How to Get Them, How to Bring Them Home, and How to Use Them." This is an overview of how these substances were originally obtained, with a description of how to buy drugs in Mexico and deal with border crossings ("...look as ordinary as possible; consider it a new type of drug").

The folder titled "Photographs" contains eight snapshots of unidentified HAF members from about 1986 displaying products recently obtained on a run to Mexico. The folder labeled "FDA and 1992 ddC Incident" contains documentation of a 1992 FDA sampling and testing of ddC tablets purchased from HAF. These document a particular investigation and HAF's response to it, but they also reveal the attitude and approach of the FDA and its relationship with buyer's clubs in general. The final two folders indicate the range of products available in 1992 and how particular products were ordered.

Box 1, Folder 1 **Description and History undated**

Box 1, Folder 2 **Articles & Bylaws undated**

Box 1, Folder 3 **Board of Directors: Lists, Correspondence undated**

Box 1, Folder 4 **Board Minutes 1987-1988**

Box 1, Folder 5 **Board Minutes 1989-1990**

Box 1, Folder 6 **Board Minutes 1991-1992**

Box 1, Folder 7 **Board Minutes 1993-1994**

Box 1, Folder 8 **Operations Committee 1991-1992**

Box 1, Folder 9 **Staff: Policies, Procedures, Memos, etc undated**

Box 1, Folder 10 **Board & Staff Retreat 1993**

Box 1, Folder 11 **Correspondence undated**

Box 1, Folder 12 **Newsletter 1998, 1994**

Box 1, Folder 13 **Publicity, Press Releases undated**

Box 1, Folder 14 **Volunteer Program, Memos undated**

Box 1, Folder 15 **Annual Reports 1987, 1988, 1990**

Box 1, Folder 16 **Reports, Miscellaneous 1989**

Box 1, Folder 17 **"HAF Gets Aggressive" 1989**

Box 1, Folder 18 **Library Development undated**

Box 1, Folder 19 **"Transition '92" 1992**

Box 1, Folder 20 **Photographs undated**

Box 1, Folder 21 **National Buyers Club undated**

Box 1, Folder 22 **Passive Immunotherapy Foundation; Correspondence 1989-1994**

Box 1, Folder 23 **Local Independent Agencies and Combined Charities undated**

Box 1, Folder 24 **FDA and 1992 ddC Incident 1992**

Box 1, Folder 25 **Ordering, Product Notes, Price List undated**

Box 1, Folder 26 **Inventory, March 1992**