



San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center *Volunteer Spotlight*

July 2009

Gregory Marks



Greg had initially been on the Capital Campaign Committee prior to the opening of the Center and worked on this committee for close to three years, having raised quite a few funds from individuals. He eventually went through the SNAP and I&R Program Volunteer training, and now seven months later he still works at both volunteer areas, at the same time participating in Development activities-

where most of his professional work experience has been.

“I love working the I&R desk,” says Greg. “It exposes me to a wide-range of services offered the queer community here in the City. I’ve had to confront my own fears of dealing with an incredibly diverse group of individuals that come in asking for help. I like having to be an active listener, sorting out exactly what kind of service an individual needs, and helping them solve their issue – or at least guiding them to an organization that can help them solve their problem – all while showing a great deal of respect of the individual asking for help.”

He provides a sensible presence and supportive ear and his endurance and commitment to building the kind of caring and supportive LGBT community that he would like to see is a reason why programs like SNAP have been successful and fruitful. Despite being a native of San Francisco Bay Area and the tremendous amount of information and experience under his belt, he remains positive and open to growth and new challenges. Whether he is strutting his stuff down Market Street during the Pride Parade or encouraging community members to invest their time and energy at the Center- his dedication to the community is evident through his all-out energy. From helping the Center staff strategize ways of reconnecting with old friends and donors, to the planning and execution of a donor appreciation event during Pride Kick Off, Greg’s enthusiasm, creativity and passion have helped the development team forge ahead despite difficult economic conditions. Besides being the undisputed best-dressed volunteer at the Center’s annual Soiree this Spring, (folks are still raving about that blue sequined blouse), Greg’s voluntarism and willingness to pitch in and lend a hand helped to make that event a tremendous success. The Center is so glad to have a friend like Greg, connecting us to the history of our community and helping us to plan for and envision our future together. Thanks Greg!