85% Coalition Collection, 1999 – 2005, bulk 2001 – 2005

Accession Number: 2010-1
Fonds/Provenance: Meg Milner

Series Number: -
Title: **85% Coalition Collection**
Extent: 2 linear feet (2 boxes)
Location: C2F (Row C, Bay 2, Shelf F)

Collection History:
The 85% Coalition was founded in 1999 in Champaign-Urbana, IL by Kimberlie Kranich and Mary Lee Sargent. Taking their name from a 1998 Illinois survey conducted by the University of Illinois at Springfield where 85% of respondents answered affirmatively with the question “Do you think there should or should not be equal rights for gay and lesbian people in terms of job opportunities and housing?”, they used direct action organizing to raising awareness of discrimination against LGBT people and to pass LGBT rights legislation.

The coalition initially began with the fight to include “sexual orientation” to the Illinois Human Rights Acts. While demonstrating in support of House Bill 101, several members were arrested and faced misdemeanor charges, though the charges were ultimately dismissed. The coalition also worked in support of Lynn Sprout, a nurse who filed a complaint before the Urbana Human Rights Council after being fired for coming out at her job with the Carle Foundation Hospital. The 85% Coalition also worked for marriage equality and on other local and national politics.

Custodial History:
The collection was donated by two members of the Coalition. Mary Lee Sargent donated materials from 1999 – 2001 on June 7, 2009. The remainder was sent by Meg Miner on June 12, 2010. The condition was good and largely arranged in manila envelopes by subject.

Scope and Content:
The bulk of the collection is made up of emails from the main 85% Coalition listserv and two specialized listservs, Equality at Carle and C-U At the Altar. The collection also includes photographs, songs used at protests, news clippings, correspondence, fliers, and legislative documents.
Arrangement:
Materials were originally grouped by topic and contained in manila envelopes. The originally grouping is preserved, but series are further broken down chronologically.

Series:
Mary Lee Sargent Resume | 2009
Demonstration Photographs | 1999 – 2001
85% Coalition Documents – CD-RW | Copied 2010
Songs and Chants | 2000
Thank You Card from University of Illinois Class Social Work 100 Talk by Kim Kranich and Meg Miner | 2001
Forms and Correspondence on House Bill 101 Capitol Demonstration Permits | 2000 – 2001
House Bill 101 Fact Sheets | 2000
Press Releases, Fliers, and Press Contact Information and Correspondence | 2000 – 2002
Media Coverage – News Clippings | 1999 – 2001
Capitol Demonstration – Statement Read and Correspondence about Filed Misdemeanor Charges | 2001
Emails | 2001 – 2005
Newspaper Articles on 85% Coalition and LGBT Rights | 1999 – 2005
Correspondence with Legislators about LGBT Rights Bills | 2001 – 2004
Correspondence Regarding Demonstration Arrests and Expungement Process | 2002
Miscellaneous Documents on LGBT Rights Legislation – Legislative Schedules, Proposed Bills, Articles, and Miscellaneous | 2001 – 2004
Miscellaneous Documents on Fundraising and Correspondence with Other Organizations | 2002 – 2003
HB101 Fact Sheet – Research and Final Copy | 2001
Title 71 (Public Use of the Capitol Complex Facilities) – Text and Correspondence | 2001
Miscellaneous – Song Chant Lyrics, Handwritten Notes, Correspondence, Legislative Matters, and Miscellaneous | Undated
Equality at Carle – Hearings and Support for Lynn Sprout, Nurse Fired from Carle Foundation Hospital for Being a Lesbian – Emails, Articles, Rally Sign-Up Forms | 2002 – 2005
C-U At the Altar – Marriage Equality – Emails | 2004 – 2005

Container List:

BOX 1

  1. Mary Lee Sargent Resume, 2009
  2. Demonstration Photographs, 1999 – 2001
  3. 85% Coalition Documents – CD-RW, Copied 2010
  4. Songs and Chants, 2000
  5. Thank You Card from University of Illinois Class Social Work 100 Talk
by Kim Kranich and Meg Miner, 2001

6. Forms and Correspondence on House Bill 101 Capitol Demonstration Permits, 2000 – 2001
7. House Bill 101 Fact Sheets, 2000
10. Capitol Demonstration – Statement Read and Correspondence about Filed Misdemeanor Charges, 2001
   1. May 2001 and Loose Handwritten Notes
   2. June 2001 – August 2001
   5. January 2002
   6. February 1 – 16, 2002
   7. February 17 – 28, 2002
   8. March 2002
   9. April 2002
  10. May 2002
  12. August 2002
  13. September 2002
  14. October 2002
  18. October 2003
  20. February 2004
  21. March 2004
  22. April 2004
  23. May 2004

BOX 2
   25. August 2004 – September 2004
   26. November 2004
   27. December 2004 – January 2005
   28. February 2005 – May 2005

12. Newspaper Articles on 85% Coalition and LGBT Rights, 1999 – 2005
   1. Originals, 2000 – 2004
   2. Photocopies, 1999 – 2005

13. Correspondence with Legislators about LGBT Rights Bills, 2001 – 2004
14. Correspondence Regarding Demonstration Arrests and Expungement Process, 2002
15. Miscellaneous Documents on LGBT Rights Legislation – Legislative Schedules, Proposed Bills, Articles, and Miscellaneous, 2001 – 2004
16. Miscellaneous Documents on Fundraising and Correspondence with Other Organizations, 2002 – 2003
17. HB101 Fact Sheet – Research and Final Copy, 2001
18. Title 71 (Public Use of the Capitol Complex Facilities) – Text and Correspondence, 2001
19. Miscellaneous – Song Chant Lyrics, Handwritten Notes, Correspondence, Legislative Matters, and Miscellaneous, Undated
   2. July 2002 – August 2002
   6. July 2004 – April 2005
   1. May 2004 – June 2004
   2. July 2004
   3. August 1, 2004 – August 15, 2004
   4. August 16, 2004 – August 31, 2004
   5. September 2004 – October 2004

Separations:
None.

Restrictions:
No known restrictions. No donor restrictions. Standard restrictions apply (see G/H “Confidentiality Agreement” for archives use).

Related Fonds/Series:
None.

Subject Headings:
Direct Action
Discrimination in employment
Gay Rights
Gay Rights—Gay men—Legal status, laws, etc.
Gay Rights—Lesbians—Legal status, laws, etc.
Same sex marriage

Preferred Citation:
[Identification of Item], 85% Coalition Collection, Gerber/Hart Library and Archives, Chicago, Illinois