

STSO Documentary Educational Guide

Chapter 10: CETA Funding and Controversy 5:18

Economic downturn of the early 1970's produced the federal Concentrated Employment Training Program to create public service employment opportunities. The Gay Alliance filed a carefully prepared application to participate. Outspoken homophobes worked to see this be the only application rejected. Recognizing open hatred for what it was, Bill Johnson, then president of the Urban League, sponsored the application and saw its funding approved. The CETA controversy received widespread news coverage. After this, all of Rochester well knew that the Gay Alliance existed.

What is CETA?

CETA is the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA). It authorized most job training programs for low-income persons. CETA comprehensive job training programs were administered by state and local governments and provide a variety of services including classroom training, on-the-job training, work experience, and job search and placement assistance.

Empty Closet References - <http://www.library.rochester.edu/rbscp/EmptyCloset>

October, 1977 – CETA Funding In Limbo After Community Chest Cops Out

November, 1977 – Urban League Profile – CETA Report Due

December, 1977 – City Council approves CETA Grant

Gay Alliance Website

The CETA Story in Eight chapters

Chapter 1: Intro to CETA

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ubOe_iHx0tE

Chapter 2: What was the Community Chest

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3K5aSIFKGEs>

Chapter 3: City council approval of CETA Funding

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AHgcD2IDVTI>

Chapter 4: Impact of CETA on GAGV

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=meRRmxxjIbo>

Chapter 5: CETA Grant Renewal

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gqNXie6Mp2s>

Chapter 6: Personal reflections on CETA Funding

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E9vXTpWIMVw>

Chapter 7: Political Impact of CETA on the Rochester, NY Community

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DdzFMnx-a-I>

Chapter 8: 1977 to Present

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nhLjBDtdiPM>