



Coalition Partner

Welcome Packet

Welcome!

Thank you for joining the National Coalition for Sexual Freedom! We welcome you to an activist community with a rich history and a bright future. NCSF has been proud to serve our constituents for over two decades, and we are stronger than ever with your help!

Mission

The NCSF is committed to creating a political, legal and social environment in the US that advances equal rights for consenting adults who engage in alternative sexual and relationship expressions. The NCSF aims to advance the rights of, and advocate for consenting adults in the **BDSM-Leather-Fetish, Lifestyle, and Polyamory** communities. We pursue our vision through direct services, education, advocacy, and outreach, in conjunction with our partners, to directly benefit these communities.

Who We Are

- A coalition of educational and social groups and businesses that serve consenting adults
- A nationwide advocacy organization that educates law enforcement, victim advocacy agencies, state and local officials, and healthcare professionals
- A media advocacy and training organization that is changing the way people think about diverse sexualities among consenting adults
- A resource to contact when discrimination or persecution related to adult sexual practices threatens you and your community
- A resource to contact for information on dealing with consent incidents and creating a consent policy
- A non-profit membership organization that provides direct services
- A charitable foundation that provides education about diverse sexualities

Current Efforts

NCSF's programs are each coordinated by a Board Member or volunteer Staff. For help in talking about NCSF's current efforts and helping to spread the word, see Appendix A for our 3-Minute Speech.

- **Incident Reporting and Response**

NCSF has always offered direct services to adults who are being discriminated against because of their diverse sexuality. Our Incident Reporting & Response

program helps almost 200 individuals, groups and businesses a year with referrals to professionals and by providing educational resources.

<http://www.ncsfreedom.org/key-programs/incident-response-97241/incident-response>

- **Consent Counts project**

Since 2007, NCSF's Consent Counts has been working to decriminalize sexual conduct between consenting adults. As part of this we spread understanding of the need for, and nature of, consent. Our Consent Counts program is designed to assist our communities in promoting a culture of consent through education and providing resources on how to deal with nonconsensual incidents. Our Community Assistance Guide for Groups can help you create a consent policy, deal with trauma and consent violations, and create your own consent response team for events.

<https://ncsfreedom.org/key-programs/consent-counts/consent-counts.html>

- **Kink Aware Professionals**

The Kink Aware Professionals Directory (KAP) is a service offered by NCSF dedicated to providing the community with a listing of psychotherapeutic, medical, legal and other professionals who have stated that they are knowledgeable about and sensitive to diverse sexualities.

<https://ncsfreedom.org/key-programs/kink-aware-professionals-59776>

- **Media Outreach**

The Media Outreach project speaks out against discrimination and persecution against BDSM, fetishes, polyamory, and nonmonogamy. NCSF offers resources for both the media and group/individuals who would like to speak out by providing media trainings on request.

<https://ncsfreedom.org/key-programs/media-outreach/media-outreach-program>

- **Education Outreach Program**

NCSF spends approximately half its yearly budget attending professional and community conferences around the country to exhibit and present dozens of workshops on consent and how to protect yourself, your group and your business.

<https://ncsfreedom.org/key-programs/media-outreach-81776/education-outreach-program-page>

- **Research**

NCSF regularly conducts research projects that help further the understanding of BDSM and nonmonogamy, and dispel stereotypes.

<https://ncsfreedom.org/resources/bdsm-survey.html>

History

The National Coalition for Sexual Freedom (NCSF) was formed in 1997 by five organizations. In September 2002, NCSF reaffirmed our mission to assist the alternative sexual communities, in particular BDSM/leather/fetish, swing and polyamory practices. NCSF has formed alliances with other organizations defending sexual freedom rights, including the Electronic Frontier Foundation, Free Speech Coalition, AASECT, CARAS, TASHRA, the Kink Knowledgeable Program, and sex worker advocacy groups.

<http://www.ncsfreedom.org/who-we-are/about-ncsf>

Organizational Structure

NCSF receives our leadership direction from a Board of Directors that is elected by our Coalition Partners.

<http://www.ncsfreedom.org/who-we-are/about-ncsf/current-ncsf-board-and-staff>

To be eligible to be a Coalition Partner member, the applicant must meet the following four requirements:

- Support the mission of NCSF
- Be a business or group that serves consenting adults
- Pay annual dues of \$100
- Organize one fundraiser each year for NCSF

The Coalition Partners meet once a year at our Annual Meeting, typically in March, which you can attend in person or online. There are also quarterly online Town Hall meetings to discuss issues affecting our members.

<http://www.ncsfreedom.org/who-we-are/coalition-partners>

Supporting Members are individuals, groups and businesses that have no requirements other than the dues they pay annually. Supporting Members do not participate in NCSF votes.

<http://www.ncsfreedom.org/who-we-are/supporting-members>

Anyone can join NCSF as an individual member for \$25.00 each year. Some of our Coalition Partners have had great successes in holding membership drives at an annual event or during a featured "NCSF Month" at their business. Please direct all questions about individual memberships to membership@ncsfreedom.org.

To find out more about our organizational structure, see the NCSF By-Laws here: <http://www.ncsfreedom.org/who-we-are/about-ncsf/ncsf-bylaws>

Dues and Fundraising

Annual dues for Coalition Partners are \$100. An automated reminder will go out through our Wild Apricot membership database. Please direct all questions concerning dues to ncsfreedom@ncsfreedom.org

<https://nationalcoalitionforsexualfreedom.wildapricot.org/>

Each Coalition Partner is responsible for holding one fundraiser for NCSF each year. This fundraiser can be anything from a play party to a silent auction, to just passing the hat at your munch. For helpful tips on fundraising, please see Appendix B.

<https://nationalcoalitionforsexualfreedom.wildapricot.org/Donate>

If you prefer to send a check, mail to:

NCSF
822 Guilford Ave, #127
Baltimore, MD 21202

Our phone is: 410-539-4824
Our hotline is: 917-848-6544

Voting

Occasionally, a matter will come up for vote online. For example, changes to our bylaws have been made by a vote online. Each Coalition Partner has one vote, which will only be counted if they are sent to vote@ncsfreedom.org.

Open positions on NCSF's Board of Directors are filled each year by a vote that occurs at our Annual Meeting. You can attend in person or online. The location of the annual meeting rotates from the East Coast, West Coast and Midwest regions so to provide maximum accessibility to our geographically diverse body of Coalition Partners.

Coalition Partners who are present at the meeting are eligible to vote on the Board of Directors, the budget, strategy or policy changes that come up at the meeting. Coalition Partners who are not at the annual meeting can vote for the Board of Directors in advance.

To see all of the annual reports from previous Coalition Partner meetings, go here: <http://www.ncsfreedom.org/who-we-are/about-ncsf/annual-meeting-notes>

Literature Requests

To order literature, please fill out this form:

<https://ncsfreedom.org/resources/order-ncsf-materials>

Please allow for 2 weeks prior to your event for mailing. If you have any issues with literature, please contact ncsfreedom@ncsfreedom.org

Media Updates

You can help spread the word about media portrayals of BDSM and nonmonogamy by signing up for NCSF's Media Update Digest at media@ncsfreedom.org and forwarding the updates to your members.

Twice a month we will alert you to stories about diverse sexual expression in the news, so that you can respond to an editor to let them know if you liked or disliked an article and why. These comments influence how editorial decisions are made in the future.

NCSF Social Media

Website: www.ncsfreedom.org

Facebook: facebook.com/NCSFFreedom

Twitter: twitter.com/NCSF

FetLife NCSF group: fetlife.com/groups/439

FetLife Consent Counts: fetlife.com/groups/46202

LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/286323

Final thought

NCSF - the Board and staff - really appreciate everything you and your organization does. We always do the best we can and if there is a problem, the only way we can fix it is to know about it.

Appendix A: 3 Minute Speech

You may be given the opportunity to take the mic on stage at an event, a couple of minutes to talk about NCSF in a class, or about 30 seconds on the elevator to convince someone to support NCSF! To help you communicate our message in a hurry, we've prepared a short and sweet barebones speech about NCSF for your reference.

The National Coalition for Sexual Freedom has been fighting for your rights since 1997, changing the way society views us.

Recent successes:

- NCSF's DSM Revision Project successfully lobbied the American Psychiatric Association and got them to make it crystal clear that BDSM is not a mental illness in the Diagnostic & Statistics Manual (the DSM-5) that was published in 2013. This has resulted in a significant drop in child custody issues – down from 124 parents asking for help in 2008 to 15 parents in 2017.

NCSF has taken the lead in two vital projects:

- First, NCSF leads the nationwide Consent Counts project that intends to decriminalize sexual behavior between consenting adults. The Consent Statement and helpful Guides for Groups on dealing with consent incidents are on NCSF's website: NCSFFreedom.org
- Also, NCSF's American Law Institute project directly advocates for consent as a defense to consensual BDSM activities. We've already helped them write a definition of consent for the new Model Penal code sexual assault law. We are also working to help victims report assault in a BDSM context without fear of being outed, while preventing consensual BDSM from being prosecuted because "consent is not a defense to assault."

NCSF also helps hundreds of people every year through our ongoing programs:

- The Kink Aware Professionals free referral service gives you a place to find a wide range of service professionals who are accepting of diverse sexuality.
- The Media Outreach Program gives interviews to debunk stereotypes about consensual kink and non-monogamy, and NCSF provides training and support for spokespeople for groups and events.
- The Education Outreach Program gives dozens of workshops around the country on consent and how to protect yourself, your group and your business.

NCSF also exhibits and presents at professional conferences to directly educate healthcare professionals, victim advocates and legal professionals.

- NCSF's Incident Reporting & Response program provided resources and referrals to kink aware professionals for almost 200 people last year who are dealing with consent incidents, or suffering from discrimination and persecution because of their kink or nonmonogamous lifestyle.

A dedicated group of volunteers does all this work on a very small budget. NCSF needs your help to succeed in our fight for our rights, so please join NCSF as a member, give a donation or throw a fundraiser for NCSF!

NCSF supports you, it's time to support NCSF!

Appendix B: Fundraising Tips

All fundraising starts with knowing your organization's mission statement

The National Coalition for Sexual Freedom is a national organization committed to creating a political, legal and social environment in the United States that advances equal rights of consenting adults who practice forms of alternative sexual expression. NCSF is primarily focused on the rights of consenting adults in the BDSM-leather-fetish, swing and polyamory communities, who often face discrimination because of their sexual expression.

Fundraising volunteers should know and be ready to talk about:

- The mission statement
- Why you are involved
- Why it is an important cause

How to develop donors:

- Promote and advertise NCSF's programs to friends/community
- Educate the community about the services we provide
- Educate the community about the ideals we support
- Provide testimony about successful experiences
- Network within the membership to recruit volunteers
- Ask for donations for programs and special events.

Types of fundraisers:

- Silent auctions
- Dinner/entertainment
- Sports tournaments
- Sales of products
- Raffles
- Home tours
- Telethons
- Sport-a-thons
- Discount books
- Different and unique events can be more appealing!!

Additional purposes of special events:

- Spread the word about what NCSF can do to help members
- New people can participate
- A positive promotion of our mission statement
- A chance to network
- Easier to sell a ticket to an event than to just ask for money
- A good way to discover new leadership and volunteers

Tips for Successful Fundraising:

- Plan fundraisers in advance
- Check community calendar for other special events
- Avoid conflicts with other groups that might attract same people
- Develop an image for the event
- Make an organizational chart of jobs for the event and who will do them
- Fundraising is a budgeted expense
- Send out mailings/notices/printed materials on schedule
- Get prominent people/celebrities in organization involved
- Volunteers, if any, need to be coordinated
- Make it fun!
- Keep records of what is being done and by whom
- Ask true believers to help by networking contacts
- Volunteers at fundraisers need to be trained/competent
- Say "Thank You!!"
- Have a backup plan for if things go wrong (rain, no shows, etc)
- Fundraising is not complete until there is a review of the events and the results.