

Carey takes helm at the Task Force

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Rea Carey was happily serving as interim executive director of **the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force** until a few months ago. The organization had embarked on an extensive search to find a replacement for Matt Foreman, who resigned in January.

Carey, who at first says she wasn't interested in the position, thought better of it when the board of directors re-approached her.

"They had gone through a very intentional process of talking to people in a wide variety of sectors and backgrounds," she said. "So I thought I should pay attention when they came back and talked to me." Carey has been a gay activist since she came out at age 16 in high school in Denver.

"Whether it was a speaker's bureau in college or my HIV activism, it's just been what I've done," she said. She was one of the founding members of the National Youth Advocacy Coalition, which works on behalf of gay youth. Carey has made D.C. her home for 19 years, and been with her partner, whom she met while playing in a lesbian poker group, for the past eight. Prior to becoming Foreman's temporary replacement, Carey served as a consultant for the Task Force and as a senior strategist for the organization.