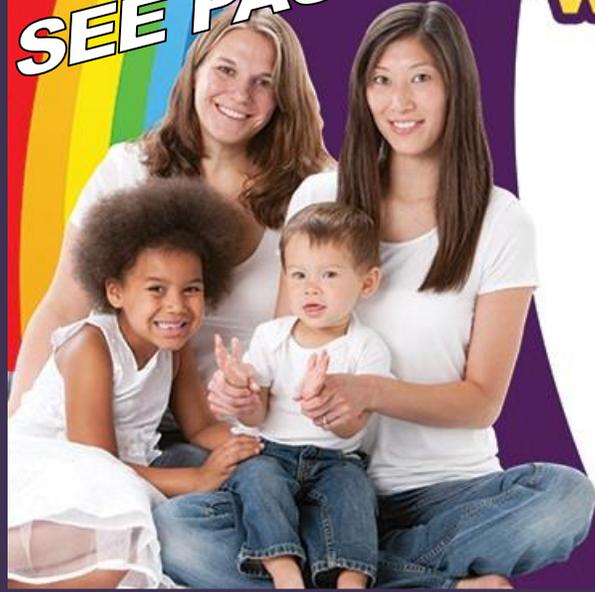


**WE ARE MOVING
SEE PAGE 3!**



Where All Families Matter.



**PFLAG
Pittsburgh**

www.PFLAGPgh.org

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The Pittsburgh PFLAGer

PFLAG Pittsburgh's Monthly Newsletter

Volume 19, Number 07

Inside Our April 2017 Edition of the Pittsburgh PFLAGer:

- A Letter from Our President
- PFLAG Pgh and the Police
- **PFLAG PGH IS MOVING!**
- About PFLAG Academy
Webinar
- Amazon Smile
- Day of Silence
- March 2017 Board Meeting
- Current Events
- **AND MORE!**

Our Next Meeting:

Sunday, April 9th

Meeting Information:

2:00PM Meeting Begins
2:15-3:30PM Small Group
Sessions
3:45-4:30PM Educational
Program

Third Presbyterian Church
5701 Fifth Ave.
Fifth & Negley Aves.
15232

Educational Program:

Melissa Barnhill,
Adagio Health

PFLAG VISION:

PFLAG envisions a world where diversity is celebrated and all people are respected, valued, and affirmed inclusive of their sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression.

PFLAG MISSION:

By meeting people where they are and collaborating with others, PFLAG realizes its vision through:

- Support for families, allies and people who are LGBTQ
- Education for ourselves and others about the unique issues and challenges facing people who are LGBTQ
- Advocacy in our communities to change attitudes and create policies and laws that achieve full equality for people who are LGBTQ

Contact Info:

Website: www.PFLAGPgh.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/PFLAGPgh

Twitter:

<http://twitter.com/PFLAGPgh>

Email: info@PFLAGPgh.org

Phone: (412) 833-4556

Mail:

P.O. Box 5406

Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Chapter Officials:

President:

Mitchell Hortert

Treasurer:

Kelley Moten

Secretary

Jason Lucarelli

Advocacy Chairperson:

Moira Myers

Support Chairperson:

Norman Brown

Education Chairperson:

Brandon Harper

At-Large:

Allen Wolk & Elaine Cummings,

Ann Aya

Speaker's Bureau

Donni Smith

Chapter Librarian:

Steve Stewart

Contributions?

Have a suggestion for the newsletter? Please respond to one of our emails with your ideas! We are always looking to provide the latest information to our chapter members and look forward to serving your needs in the future!

A Minute with Mitch:

A Letter from the President....

Dear PFLAG Pittsburgh Friends,

In the last four months, PFLAG Pittsburgh has been experiencing a ton of activity. Our advocacy group is reaching out to various communities in order to see how PFLAG Pgh can be a support to them. We have issued statements on several important laws and issues occurring in the news.



We have begun a partnership with the City of Pittsburgh's Police Department on training and providing support to their CIT training. On top of all of that- we are moving!

PFLAG Pittsburgh is in existence because of the amazing volunteers that keep us going. I cannot thank the team members we have enough for their hard work, dedication, and determination. Without them, we would not be here! Thank you!

In the next few months, several committees will be formulated in order to tackle several important projects. If you are interested in being a volunteer for one of them or chairing the committee, please drop us an email be writing to info@pflagpgh.org. Below is the list of committees:

- Moving Committee
- Pride Committee
- Fundraising Committee

There are also several other ways you may become involved which include writing or editing the newsletter, website editor, support group facilitator, speakers bureau participant, amongst others. Send us an email if you would like to get involved. We would love to have you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M Hortert".

Mitchell
President of PFLAG Pittsburgh

LGBTQ+ Stories:

From Across the Globe to Around the Corner

PFLAG Pittsburgh Joins Forces with the City of Pittsburgh Police Department

The City of Pittsburgh's Department of Police and PFLAG Pittsburgh have entered into a new partnership that allows us to facilitate a training that consists of a monthly speaker's bureau for their CIT training. The requirement is for us to have a panel available monthly for one hour from 1-2:30pm on pre-selected Thursdays. The next training is April 27th. The format permits that we will need two or three additional people to attend each month. Our chapter president, Mitchell Hortert will facilitate this partnership. If anyone is interested or available, please email us at info@pflagpgh.org.



Background about the Program: The Crisis Intervention Team Program is within the City of Pittsburgh's Bureau of Police; however, it services the 130+ police departments across Allegheny County due to their specialization. Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) is an innovative police based first responder program of pre-arrest jail diversion for those in a mental illness crisis. This program provides law enforcement based crisis intervention training for helping those individuals with mental illness. Currently, Mt. Lebanon requires all of their police officers to participate in the program and the City of Pittsburgh requires all newly hired officers to participate. To date, they have had over 600 officers complete the program since 2007.

PFLAG Pittsburgh is MOVING!

During the January 2017 PFLAG Pittsburgh board meeting, it was unanimously approved for PFLAG Pittsburgh to move our monthly Sunday meeting location from Third Presbyterian Church to Persad Center.

Effective for our July 2017 meeting and onward- our monthly meeting location will change to Persad Center in Lawrenceville. Their address is 5301 Butler Street, Suite 100 Pittsburgh, PA 15201. We will continue to meet on the second Sunday of each month from 2:00pm-4:30pm; however, our location will have changed. **The meeting in July is on July 9th, 2017.**

We are moving for several reasons. The primary reason is so that all of our meetings will now be housed in one convenient location. Currently, our board meetings are held at Persad. Also, the potluck dinner of Parents of Transgender children is also held at Persad Center. The board felt that providing consistency would help us to provide better services to our membership and community.

The transition has begun. We are currently paring down our belongings and condensing our library. During the next chapter meeting, visitors to our meeting will be able to go through the books we are eliminating and take them home to their own personal libraries. Any books that are left will be then donated to the GLCC of Pittsburgh.

In the coming weeks, we will need volunteers to help us with packing and condensing all of our possessions. If you are interested in helping, please send us an email at info@pflagpgh.org or give us a call at 412-833-4556.

We look forward to partnering with Persad and look forward to the future with optimism, hope and a determination to provide the best services possible.



About PFLAG Academy Online:

PFLAG Academy Online brings free, monthly, PFLAG members-only training opportunities with core educational programs right to your computer screen. Benefit from PFLAG's great learning options, informed staff, and input from other participants without leaving home. All you'll need is a computer (or mobile device) and the drive to move equality forward!

In the coming months, be on the lookout for brand new sessions, including one on conflict resolution as well as core-skill building sessions on creating a thriving chapter, support group facilitation, and more! You may also email info@pflag.org or your [Field Manager](#) for more details about how to access past sessions on-demand so you can use PFLAG Academy Online as a resource for developing the leadership pipeline for your chapter.

Additional Information:

- [ReadyTalk Registration Information](#)
- [How do I know that my computer will be able to connect?](#)
- [Other Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) about webinars.](#)

Transgender WWII veteran comes out as a woman at 90

By Alexandra Klausner of *The New York Post*

A transgender World War II veteran proves it's never too late to live life truthfully.

Patricia Davies, from Leicestershire, England, didn't decide to transition into a female until she turned 90 years old.

Davies — born Peter — has known she was a woman since she was just a toddler.

"I've known I was transgender since I was 3 years old. I knew a girl called Patricia, and I decided I wanted to be known by that name but it didn't stick," Davies told Caters News Agency.

Davies kept her identity a secret for most of her life for fear she would be shunned by her peers or forced to undergo electric shock treatment.

"The atmosphere [around being transgender] was not safe. People did not understand what transgender was," Davies said.

Davies — who served in the army between April 1945 and 1948 — said coming out as transgender would have categorized her as a homosexual, which wouldn't have been accepted in the army. Despite losing friends and cheating death while serving in the armed forces, she says she's glad she got to have the experience.

"I feel quite proud having served during the war and having done military service, in particular during the trouble in Palestine," said Davies..

Davies, who married when she was 21, eventually came out to her supportive wife in 1987. Her wife, to whom she was married for 63 years, bought Davies jewelry and dresses that she could wear in private. Sadly, her wife passed away six years ago.

To read more, please visit: <http://nypost.com/2017/03/29/transgender-wwii-veteran-comes-out-as-a-woman-at-90/>



PFLAG National on North Carolina Legislature's So-Called HB2 Repeal; it's not a repeal.

WASHINGTON—PFLAG National—the nation's largest organization uniting families, allies, and people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ)—issued the following statement from Diane Troy, Volunteer Regional Director and a resident of Charlotte, North Carolina on the failure to repeal the discriminatory HB2.

"This is frustrating and heart-breaking for the LGBTQ community and for families like mine who fear our children are now even more at risk because the government of North Carolina is claiming repeal of this awful law," said Diane Troy, Volunteer Regional Director, PFLAG National.

"There are no statewide nondiscrimination laws in our state for the LGBTQ community so the message that is being sent is that discriminatory practices can be the law of the land. Clearly, this alleged repeal is not a repeal, and private businesses can enact bathroom bans for trans people and prohibit local governments from acting or stopping those actions in their communities. These are not North Carolinian values, and my hope is that the NBA, NCAA, businesses and other organizations that have demanded fairness for all so far stand their ground, aligned with LGBTQ people and their families and allies who they love."

PFLAG has more than 400 chapters across the United States, including Puerto Rico. In North Carolina, we have 16 chapters and thousands of members who call North Carolina home. To learn more about PFLAG National's advocacy work, visit pflag.org/wherewestand.

Amazon Smile

Do you shop on Amazon.com? PFLAG Pgh is registered with AmazonSmile where they donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to PFLAG Pgh. AmazonSmile is the **same** Amazon you know. You can get the **same** products, **same** prices, **same** service, **same** Amazon everything. The only difference is that Amazon will donate to PFLAG Pgh each time you shop! Visit smile.amazon.com for more details and search PFLAG Pittsburgh.



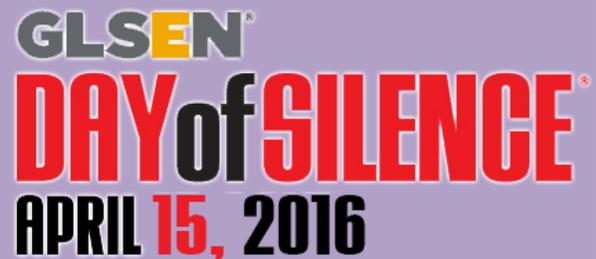
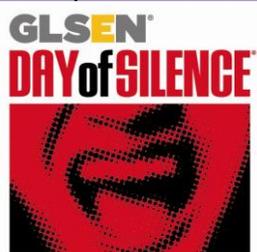
GLSEN's Annual Day of Silence- April 21st, 2017

The National Day of Silence is a day of action in which students across the country vow to take a form of silence to call attention to the silencing effect of anti-LGBT bullying and harassment in schools.

Founded in 1996, the Day of Silence has become the largest single student-led action towards creating safer schools for all, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

From the first-ever Day of Silence at the University of Virginia in 1996, to the organizing efforts in over 8,000 middle schools, high schools, colleges and universities across the country in 2008, its textured history reflects its diversity in both numbers and reach.

GLSEN's 2014 National School Climate Survey found that Sixty-five percent of LGBT students heard homophobic remarks (e.g., "dyke" or "faggot") frequently or often. Thirty-three percent heard negative remarks specifically about transgender people, like "tranny" or "he/she," frequently or often. Moreover, Fifty-six percent of LGBT students reported personally experiencing LGBT-related discriminatory policies or practices at school and 65 percent said other students at their school had experienced these policies and practices. This included 28 percent reporting being disciplined for public displays of affection that were not disciplined among non-LGBT students. See more at: <http://www.glsen.org/article/glsen-releases-new-national-school-climate-survey#sthash.ajFnOJ8R.dpuf>. Thus, the Day of Silence helps bring us closer to making anti-LGBT bullying, harassment and name-calling unacceptable in America's schools.





PFLAG Pittsburgh's March 27, 2017 Board Mtg. Agenda

In an attempt to continue with our organization's transparency, below is the outline from our March 27, 2017 board meeting. If you have questions about the items or would like to get involved with a project, please contact one of the above listed board members for more information.

- **Meeting Commenced at 7:05pm**
- **Attendance:**
 - Present: Mitchell Hortert (President), Jason Lucarelli (Secretary), Norman Brown (Support Chair), Moira Myers (Advocacy Chairperson), Elaine Cummings (Member at-large), Ann Aya (Member at-large), Allen Wolk (Member at-large), Stephen Stewart (Librarian)
 - Absent: Kelley Moten (Treasurer), Brandon Harper (Education Chairperson)
- Treasurer
 - PNC Account
- Support: Norman
- Education: Brandon
 - April: Melissa Barnhill, Adagio Health
 - May: Jason
 - June: NO MEETING—SEE YOU @ PRIDE! (MORE DETAILS TO COME)
 - July: Social
 - August: Film
- Speakers Bureau:
 - Northland Public Library on June 8th at 7:00 PM.
- Advocacy: Moira
- Library:
 - Condensing- Last Sunday to take books is April 9th
- Old Business:
 - Amending bylaws and creating policy documentation
 - Storage Issues
 - PFLAG Pittsburgh Moving- Documentation, etc.
 - Warmline Update
 - Sales tax exemption: Kelley still working on this.
 - City of Pittsburgh Police
- New Business:
 - Cranfest- April 8
 - ReelQ 2017
 - Pride Planning- Committee formed for April and May meeting
 - Ad in Pride Magazine
 - Sign-in sheets
 - Anything else?