



# PFLAG Colorado Springs

Parents, Families, Friends, and Allies United  
With LGBT People to Move Equality Forward

August 2018

## “What’s Up at Inside Out?” — August PFLAG Meeting

Jessie Pocock will come to the August PFLAG meeting to provide an update on what’s happening at Inside/Out Youth Services. She has been the Executive Director of Inside/Out for the past six months, and has been rapidly building the program in the climate that her predecessor, Mary Malia, set up during her tenure.

Jessie is concentrating on health and wellness in the community of LGBTIQ youth, where substance abuse, smoking and suicide are significant issues. Inside/Out has received a three-year grant from the CU School of Health which will provide resources and training, as well as funding for three years from the statewide Office of Suicide Prevention and another three year commitment for development of a Trusted Adults program using state funds to help youth sidestep marijuana.

For the past fifteen years Jessie has worked in the nonprofit sector to ad-



Jessie Pocock

vance the arts, social justice, and youth causes. As the executive director of the LEAD Foundation, she worked to empower students with learning disabilities to speak about their learning challenges to educators throughout the United States.

She was the development and events director for the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs (UCCS) Galleries of Contemporary Art, and spearheaded One Colorado’s Southern Colorado grassroots efforts for pro-LGBTQ equity legislation.

In 2016, she was appointed by Governor Hickenlooper to the Colorado Civil Rights Commission where she’s currently the vice chair. Jessie graduated from Colorado College where she earned her Bachelor in Sociology and continued to UCCS School of Public Affairs where she earned a Master of Public Administration degree. In 2014, Jessie was named a *Colorado Springs Business Journal* “Rising Star,” and the *Colorado Springs Independent* newspaper

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### AUGUST PFLAG MEETING

Tuesday  
August 21, 2018  
7:00 p.m.

“What’s Up at Inside/Out”?

Jessie Pocock  
Executive Director of  
Inside/Out Youth Services

August is Ice Cream Social  
Month at PFLAG  
We’ll have all the ingredients so  
you can make your own  
Ice Cream Sundae!

The Dwelling Place  
508 North Tejon Street

Social time starts at 6:30 p.m.  
Everyone is welcome

## A Home Run for Urban Peak

The annual Urban Peak “Off the Street” breakfast fundraiser under the Colorado Avenue Bridge on July 19 was attended by over 1,000 people this year. A record \$180,000 was raised at the event! Thank you to everyone who participated in the PFLAG table at the breakfast.

The large crowd heard the stories. And they endorsed the vision. And they gave - generously - to help bring our homeless youth off of the street. Thank you, once again, to PFLAG table captain Elaine Myers for inspiring us to participate.

Executive Director Shawna Kempainen has promised to provide updates on the drop in center and warming shelter plans as they progress. More information about Urban Peak is available at:

[www.urbanpeak.org/colorado-springs](http://www.urbanpeak.org/colorado-springs)

## Let’s Line Up for Pueblo Pride Parade on August 19

Pueblo Pride is coming up on Sunday August 19th. Volunteers from the Colorado Springs PFLAG chapter will be carrying our banner and a few of our new SIGNS in the parade. If you would like to march in the parade with PFLAG, call Cindy Waldmann at (719) 488-9887.

Pueblo does not have a PFLAG chapter. The organization that supports the LGBTIQ community in Pueblo is the Southern Colorado Equality Alliance, which is celebrating its 25th Anniversary this year. It’s a great time for us to show our support. The parade is at 10:00 a.m. The (free) festival in Mineral Palace Park, 1500 - 2100 North Santa Fe Avenue, runs from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



This newsletter is published by the Colorado Springs Chapter of PFLAG.

**PFLAG Vision Statement.** 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 Statement:** 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.

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To join the local chapter and receive the newsletter regularly, complete and mail the membership form on page four. To receive complimentary copies of the newsletter, please contact us.

E-mail address: [info@cspflag.org](mailto:info@cspflag.org)

Support Line: (719) 425-9567

P.O. Box 49131  
Colorado Springs, CO 80949

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PFLAG National Office website:  
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awarded her with \$5,000 and the inaugural "Grandma Lottie Social Entrepreneur" award.

Every young person deserves a safe space where they can express who they are. Since 1990, Inside Out Youth Services has been the safe space where lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and questioning (LGBTIQ) youth ages 13-22 can be who they are and grow into who they are becoming.

The mission of Inside/Out is to empower, educate and advocate for lesbian, bisexual, transgender, gay, intersex and questioning (LGBTIQ) youth from Southern Colorado, primarily El Paso and Teller counties. Inside/Out does this by creating

**"Queer and Here"**

Satellite program of Inside/Out, August 24 from 3-5 p.m. at Library 21C, Room B-6, 1175 Chapel Hills Dr. For more info call 328-1056.

safe space and support systems and teaching life skills to youth in our community and by working to make our community safer and more accepting of diversity in both gender and sexual orientation.

I/O Website: [www.insideoutys.org](http://www.insideoutys.org)

**Trans Youth Education and Support (TYES)**

TYES is a PFLAG affiliate that offers education and support to families with gender variant children. TYES information is available at PFLAG meetings.

TYES families in the Pikes Peak region keep in touch by phone and through a private Facebook page. To contact the Colorado Springs TYES volunteers, call PFLAG at (719) 425-9567 or send an e-mail to [info@cspflag.org](mailto:info@cspflag.org).

The TYES program originated and is headquartered in Boulder, Colorado.

More information is available at the national TYES website [www.TYES-Colorado.org](http://www.TYES-Colorado.org)



**AUDITIONS**

A message from Out Loud Colorado Springs Men's Chorus:

Do you like to sing? Then we want you!! Out Loud will be auditioning new members before its rehearsals on:

August 6  
August 13  
August 20

Come and be a part of this amazing group. You will make friends, share in the laughter, and make incredible music.

For more information, and to schedule an audition time with the director, Joshua, please contact Richard Ortiz at [ortizrich@hotmail.com](mailto:ortizrich@hotmail.com). It's going to be a fun season! Chorus website: [www.outloudcsmc.com](http://www.outloudcsmc.com)

**Youth Documentary Academy**

Thank you to filmmaker Tom Shepard and the students and staff of YDA for a wonderful presentation at the July PFLAG meeting. The two films they showed us were inspiring and the discussion was...electric!

YDA will be presenting a collection of its films at an event at the Fine Arts Center in the fall. Details next month.



The 10th Annual Colorado Springs Intertribal Powwow, an event organized by One Nation Walking Together, will be held on Saturday, August 11 at the Norris Penrose Event Center, 1045 Gold Camp Road, from 10:00 am—6:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend this celebration of native American history and culture. Websites: [www.coloradospringspowwow.org](http://www.coloradospringspowwow.org) or [www.OneNationwt.org](http://www.OneNationwt.org).





Jerry Albrent and Christopher Garvin with two of Lori Vollmar's new signs:  
Harry Potter taught us that NO ONE deserves to be in a closet.

#### GAY AGENDA

1. Be Equal
2. Be Fabulous
3. Do Brunch

PFLAG was a strong presence at PrideFest in Colorado Springs on July 14-15, as volunteers handed out stacks of PFLAG literature and talked to everyone who stopped by the PFLAG booth in the park all day Saturday and Sunday. As always, Bill and Carol Brown Oberg held down the fort at the park while the other volunteers marched in the Pride Parade.

This year marchers carried new signs for the parade, made by veteran PFLAG mom Lori Vollmar. Lori is a retired teacher, and both her artwork and her ideas were delightful.

Jerry Albrent, carrying the "Harry Potter" sign, was stopped repeatedly by folks watching the parade so they could capture a photo of him with the sign.

Thanks to Cindy Waldmann and Elaine Myers for setting up the booth, and volunteers Bill Oliver, Jerry Albrent, Christopher Garvin, Wes and Cheryl Prichard, Steve Waldmann, his mom, Karen, and son, Noah, Lori Vollmar, Karen Stith, Bill Oberg, Carol Brown Oberg, Lori, Kaden., and others for working at the booth, taking photos and/or marching in the parade.

PFLAG meetings are always a safe space.

Who you meet, and what you hear ...  
Must remain strictly confidential.

- Thank you.

## PrideFest 2018



Elaine Myers and Bill Oliver  
(Photographs by Bill Oliver)



PrideFest is a family event! Cindy, Steve, Noah and Karen Waldmann

## Large Turnout for Colorado Springs PrideFest Reflects Community Support, Fear that Rights are Threatened

*This article by Tony Peck is reprinted from the July 15 Gazette.*

Colorado Springs' annual PrideFest celebrating the vibrancy of the LGBTQ community reveled in its usual flashy rainbow-hued hairdos and costumes along its downtown parade route Sunday, attracting a record number of spectators and participants, organizers said.

The large turnout under overcast skies, they said, reflected the growing confidence born of legal victories, such as the landmark 2015 Supreme Court ruling in favor of same-sex marriage, and concerns that civil rights are again threatened under the Trump administration, which has sought to ban transgender people from serving in the military.

Last month's narrow *Masterpiece Cakeshop* ruling, which left in place a Colorado baker's refusal to make a wedding cake for a gay couple based on his religious objections, has heightened fears about discrimination being condoned.

The theme for the city's 28th PrideFest was "Be ... you," a simple message that helped bring out crowds, said lead organizer Nic Grzecka, who took over (management of PrideFest) in 2015.

Since then the number of floats and other parade participants has grown from 18 to 57. This year there were more than 100 vendors, ranging from corporate sponsors' booths to food trucks.

"That is the most Colorado Springs PrideFest has ever had,"

Grzecka said.

While Grzecka credits volunteers for their hard work, the nation's heated political landscape also was a factor, he said.

"It is because of the current administration, that is why we are seeing record numbers," he said. "We are at a point where we are fighting again, re-visiting things that have already been fought before."

PFLAG congratulates Nic Grzecka of Club Q and all of his wonderful volunteers who created a powerful PrideFest celebration.

Video. Click this link to watch a one-minute video of the 2018 Pride Parade. Our big yellow PFLAG banner pops into view in the last two seconds.  
<https://bit.ly/2LIOEjJ>

Calendar. Be sure to come to our Ice Cream Social on August 21, and check out the events listed on the Calendar on page 4. Attend a Powwow, eat at Chipotle, audition for Out Loud, and march in a Pride Parade in Pueblo.

### Thank You

To the Sponas Foundation, First Congregational United Church of Christ and the Ruskey/Bianchi Family for their significant, ongoing support of Colorado Springs PFLAG.



**BULLETIN BOARD**

**Status of Transgender Troops Remains Unclear**

By Tom Roeder, Senior Military Editor, *The Gazette*, July 14, 2018

Transgender troops so far have remained in uniform as lawsuits on the issue grind through the courts.

The Pentagon, which took months to study the transgender ban, released guidelines in February that banned those who have undergone gender reassignment therapy. But the ban didn't cover all transgender troops, and even the limited restrictions are being litigated.

"Among other things, the policies set forth by the secretary of defense state that transgender persons with a history or diagnosis of gender dysphoria — individuals who the policies state may require substantial medical treatment, including medications and surgery — are disqualified from military service except under certain limited circumstances," Trump said in a March memo on the new policy.

The attempted reversal of the Obama-era policy that allowed transgender military service is an odd shift for a governmental entity that long has led the nation in civil rights reforms.

During World War II, the military allowed black pilots to earn their wings in what was seen as a major blow to Jim Crow policies. The Tuskegee Airmen's success led to a 1948 decision that ended racial discrimination in the Defense Department.

In the 1970s, the military became a leader in the women's rights movement. The first women were allowed entry into the nation's service academies in 1976.

In the 1990s, the Pentagon adopted a policy of "don't ask, don't tell," the first step toward allowing gays and lesbians to serve. In 2010, the Pentagon ended restrictions tied to homosexuality.

In 2016, the Pentagon approved transgender service and changed policies to allow women to serve in combat roles that had been male-only.

Transgender rights groups have filed suit against Trump, seeking to block the new ban. Court rulings in the matter could come later this summer.

**August 6, 13 and 20 — Auditions for Out Loud Colorado Springs Men's Chorus** — Auditions will be held before rehearsals on these dates. More information p. 2.

**August 11— 10th Annual Colorado Springs Intertribal Powwow** —Norris Penrose Event Center 10 am—6 pm. Admission \$5. See p. 2 for details.

**August 14—Queer Youth Leadership Fundraiser @ Chipotle** — 4:00—8:00 pm, 17 South Tejon Street. Eat at Chipotle and tell them that you are there for Inside/Out. A portion of what you spend will go to Inside/Out.

**August 16 — Q-munity Open House at Inside/Out Youth Services** — 5:30—7:00 pm, 223 North Wahsatch Avenue for those interested in learning more about Inside/Out and how to get involved.

**August 17 —Q-munity Open House at Inside/Out Youth Services** — 5:30—7:00 pm, 223 North Wahsatch Avenue for youth ages 13-22 who are interested in learning about 1/0 programs.

**August 19— Pueblo PrideFest—** Parade starts at 10:00 a.m., Festival in Mineral Palace Park 11:00 a.m.—4 p.m. . See p. 1 for details.

**August 24— Inside/Out Satellite Program.** Library 21C, Room B-6, 1175 Chapel Hills Drive, 3-5 p.m. For youth ages 13-22. Make new friends, games, conversation. For more information, call Inside/Out at (719) 328-1056.

**October 3 — "Love the Skin You're In" —"Ally Up!" Annual Breakfast Fundraiser for Inside/Out Youth Services—** Antlers Hotel. Put it on your calendar now to support Inside/Out. Special Guests will be Transgender Military Activists Logan and Laila Ireland, who participated in the PFLAG meeting with Col. Gary Packard last April. Secure your place at the PFLAG table by calling table captain Cheryl Prichard at (719) 550-9235.

**Support Colorado Springs PFLAG—Become a Member**

You can join at any time of the year. The current membership year extends from October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ New member \_\_\_\_ Renewing member

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_ Regular Membership \$ 30
- \_\_\_\_ Supporting Member—Silver 40
- \_\_\_\_ Supporting Member—Gold 60
- \_\_\_\_ Supporting Member—Platinum 100

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you wish to receive the newsletter by e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Each year our chapter must contribute \$15.00 for each paid membership to the PFLAG national office to support its mission.

Make checks payable to Colorado Springs PFLAG and mail to P.O. Box 49131, Colorado Springs, CO 80949. Membership fees and additional donations are tax deductible. All information will remain confidential. PFLAG is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization.