



PFLAG Colorado Springs

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

August 2020

PFLAG Chapter Meetings During the Pandemic

The Colorado Springs PFLAG virtual monthly meetings are increasingly popular. In July, sixteen people joined in a lively discussion of LGBT issues and local community news and resources. Old and new friends are showing up, some from out of town.

Please be aware that each month we create a new meeting in Zoom. The link from last month will not work.

To participate in the upcoming meeting, send a personal email with your first name and last initial to:

virtualmeeting@cspflag.org.

Within a few minutes you will receive an auto-generated email confirm-

ing your request. If you don't get this email within 30 minutes, please let us know by sending an email to:

information@cspflag.org.

The day before the meeting you will receive the login instructions for the Zoom video call.

Make sure you have Zoom installed on your device (computer, ipad, tablet or phone) ahead of time.

Conversation and support with the PFLAG community can be very rewarding. We look forward to seeing you at the next PFLAG meeting on August 18th at 7 p.m.

August Virtual PFLAG Meeting

By Zoom Online

Tuesday, August 18
7:00 p.m.

Conversation and Support

To attend the meeting, please send an email message to:
virtualmeeting@cspflag.org

You will receive information about how this works.
Everyone is welcome.

You are Invited to Celebrate the San Luis Valley PrideFest



The organizers of the Second Annual San Luis Valley PrideFest in Alamosa, Colorado, have announced a VIRTUAL 2020 PrideFest celebration during the month of August. The website states:

"The 2020 SLV PrideFest is taking a VIRTUAL shape to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 within our community. This does not diminish our Pride, but rather reinforces the need to help and support those in our community. Here is a list of free and COVID-friendly activities that you can participate in for PrideFest 2020!"

See the SLV PrideFest website, www.slvpride.org, for activities and sign-up information. The website also

features joyful photos from their first Pridefest celebrated in 2019.

We can show our support for this group by participating in the virtual events:

Scavenger Hunt – August 17-23.

Trans 101: Trans Ally Education – August 28 – 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Jazmine James, a trans activist and educator, will be facilitating this educational discussion using the following Zoom videoconferencing link:

<https://bit.ly/31yq9vA>

Meeting ID: 834 2936 8489 - Passcode: trans101

Re-Imagined Pride Parade - August 29th at 10:00 a.m. Local participants will decorate their cars and bring them to a downtown lot. Check website and social media for photos.

Virtual Pride Party – August 29th 6:00 – 11:00 p.m. Volunteers will be live streaming Kansas City's DJ SirQueen who will be playing big LGBTQ+ anthems and club music for your dancing pleasure as well as hosting some awesome drag performances!

The Pride Party will be available live on the SLV Pride web page as well as on Facebook (San Luis Valley Pridefest 2020).

PFLAG National — Sept. 2 "Moving Equality Forward"

Join leaders and friends at PFLAG National for "Moving Equality Forward", a virtual event honoring legislative champions of equality, to learn about PFLAG National's new initiatives to support LGBTQ+ people and their families during the pandemic, and to hear how PFLAG is continuing the work of changing hearts, minds, and laws.

Funds raised by tickets and sponsorships for Moving Equality Forward will be used to support PFLAG Connects (<https://pflag.org/connect>), a new program meeting LGBTQ+ people and their families where they are and as they are, through online meetings with PFLAG chapters, live broadcasts on social media and digital resources.

This event will take place on September 2, 2020 from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Mountain Time. Individual tickets (\$35.00) must be purchased online in advance at <https://bit.ly/2XEvxfr>. A link will be sent to registrants.

SING!!!

The Out Loud Colorado Springs Men's Chorus is in Intermission during the pandemic. However, several members recently had a chance to participate in a piece that sends a wonderful and powerful message. Watch it at: <https://bit.ly/2XMj8pQ>



From the PFLAG—Colorado Springs Facebook Page

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.

To join the local chapter and receive this newsletter regularly, go to the website: www.cspflag.org. To receive complimentary copies of the newsletter, please contact us by email.

E-mail address: information@cspflag.org

Support Line: (719) 425-9567
P.O. Box 49131
Colorado Springs, CO 80949

PFLAG Colorado Springs website: www.cspflag.org

PFLAG Colorado Springs on Facebook: PFLAG - Colorado Springs <https://www.facebook.com/PFLAGCS/>

PFLAG National Office website: www.pflag.org

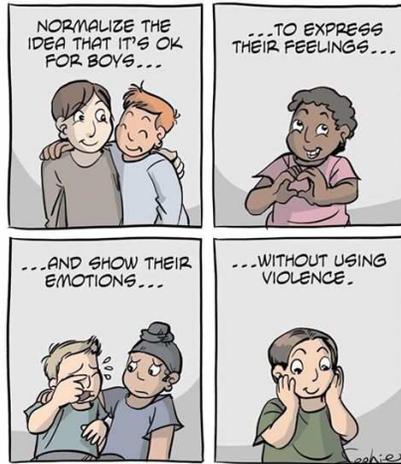
Newsletter Editor: Karen Flitton Stith
E-mail: karenfstith@gmail.com

To receive your newsletter by e-mail, send a request to: information@cspflag.org

For Facebook users: did you know that there is a Facebook page called Queer Friends Colorado Springs?

Cindy Waldmann does a great job of managing our PFLAG Facebook page: PFLAG—Colorado Springs.

Here are few of her recent posts.



22 transgender people have been killed so far this year— almost the total toll for 2019. See profiles and a story in *The Hill* - July 24, 2020 <https://bit.ly/3imHbDF>

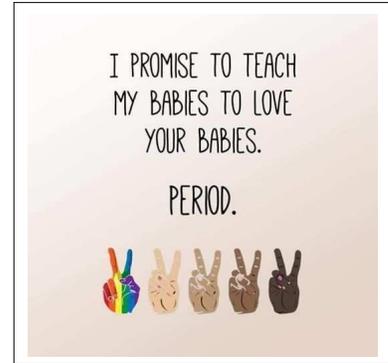
TYES

Transgender Youth Education and Support (TYES) is a Boulder-based parent group that provides information and a community of support for parents of gender dysphoric and gender variant younger children. Website: www.TYES-Colorado.org.

TransParent Group

The TransParent group for parents of gender variant and transgender youth is meeting virtually on Zoom on the third Thursday of the month from 6:00—7:30 p.m. This group is offered by Inside Out Youth Services.

For more information, and to receive the Zoom meeting link, email transparenting@insideoutys.org or call Inside/Out at (719) 328-1056.



IF YOU SEE SOMETHING THAT IS NOT RIGHT, NOT FAIR, NOT JUST —
YOU HAVE A MORAL OBLIGATION TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.
—JOHN LEWIS

“Understanding Gender”

Is there someone in your life you would like to have a deeper appreciation for gender diversity? Or maybe you would like to learn more yourself?

“Understanding Gender” is a Gender Spectrum webinar coming up on September 10 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Mountain Time. Information about the free webinar is available online at <http://bit.ly/2uF2ywu>.

Gender Spectrum is a nonprofit organization based in San Leandro, California. More information about this webinar will be available in the September PFLAG newsletter.



CONGRATULATIONS to Executive Director Shawna Kempainen and The Place on the great success of the “Off the Street” virtual breakfast on July 16th.

Over \$100,000 was raised to support its homeless youth programs. This year we all missed having breakfast at the PFLAG table under the Colorado Avenue Bridge, but volunteers were on hand at The Place to receive donations and hand out breakfast bags from the faithful supporters at the Picnic Basket.

Photos from the celebration and a video about the work they do are available online at:

<https://theplacecos.org/off-the-street>



BULLETIN BOARD

August 1-29 — San Luis Valley PrideFest — Join this PrideFest on line to help our friends in the San Luis Valley celebrate. See p. 1.

August 15 — Festival for Life— Virtual fundraiser for Colorado Health Network. See this page.

September 2 — Moving Equality Forward — PFLAG National is providing a virtual event to honor champions of equality. Tickets \$35. 4:30—5:30 p.m. See p. 1.

September 10 — “Understanding Gender” - Webinar provided by Gender Spectrum 6:00—7:00 p.m. See p. 2.

A Silver Lining

Editor’s Note: The way individuals have rapidly embraced communicating on Zoom and other videoconferencing programs must surely be counted as a silver lining in these difficult months of COVID-19.

With many normal activities cancelled, people have had time to explore online communication. Relationships with family members and friends have been strengthened, non-profits have found new ways to offer services and support, and teachers have come up with good ideas that may migrate from distance learning back into the classroom.

If you haven’t already Zoomed, I encourage you to try it. Come to a PFLAG meeting...and then use Zoom to reach out to others.

My apologies to those who are reading this and are virtual-communication weary because they are working long hours from home. I still encourage you to put a couple of old friends together on a Zoom call just for fun. It’s internet – you can reach out to someone virtually anywhere.

This is Important

You don’t always know where other people are on their journeys.

THEREFORE, PFLAG meetings, both in-person and virtual, must always be a safe space.

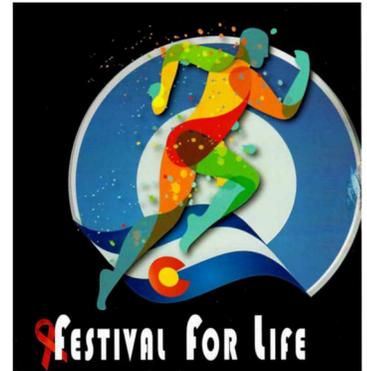
Who you meet, and what you hear

Must remain strictly confidential.

Festival For Life—August 15th

The Festival For Life is the Colorado Health Network’s oldest HIV fundraiser. (Perhaps you have participated in the S-CAP AIDS Walk in the Garden of the Gods in past years.)

This year’s event on August 15th will be virtual, consisting of live streamed programs, a 5K Run and 5K Memorial Walk, a Virtual Diva Dash and community activities. The Festival for



Life raises funds to support Coloradans living with and at risk of acquiring HIV/AIDS – and you can participate on your own schedule and from the comfort of your own neighborhood.

Formerly known as the Southern Colorado Aids Project (S-CAP) in the Pikes Peak region, the Colorado Health Network now spans the entire state, with offices in Denver, Colorado Springs, Grand Junction, Greeley, Pueblo and Ft. Collins. Information about CHN services is available online at www.coloradohealthnetwork.org.

Check out the Festival of Life and register to participate at www.coloradohealthnetwork.org/events.

Thank You

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

Amazon Smile Program—It’s Easy

Colorado Springs PFLAG participates in the Amazon Smile program. When making purchases on Amazon, please enter the site through our portal:

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/84-1281187>

When you do this, Amazon will send 0.5% of the value of your purchase to our chapter. Send us an email to receive a flyer with more information about this program.

Support Colorado Springs PFLAG—Become a Member

You can join at any time of the year. The current membership year extends from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020.

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: _____

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

E-mail _____

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

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. Or pay by credit card online at website: www.cspflag.org PFLAG is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.