



# PFLAG Colorado Springs

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

September 2020

## One Year After the Big Anniversary We are Going Strong — Renew Your Membership, Support PFLAG

Just one year ago, on September 21, a large group of PFLAG members and supporters celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the Colorado Springs chapter of PFLAG with an Italian dinner at the Red Gravy restaurant. Founders and long time members were light-heartedly honored by master of ceremonies Jerry Albrent.

So much has changed in the ensuing year, as the pandemic shutdown has inspired us to reach out in new ways to continue the mission of Colorado Springs PFLAG.

Old and new friends are showing up at our monthly PFLAG meetings on Zoom, some of them from out of town. Participants engage in a lively discussion of LGBT issues, community news and resources, and offer each other a generous amount of support in this challenging time.

We have continued to help Inside/Out Youth Services and The Place with their events, and look forward to a time when we can usher again for Out Loud concerts and provide PFLAG information tables at PrideFest, the Educating Children of Color event and various diversity events at our local schools and colleges.

The chapter maintains a website and a support line and publishes this newsletter. [Please support PFLAG.](#)



### We Need Your Membership

To keep our chapter strong and supportive, we need your help! It is easy to sign up as a new member or renew your membership online at [www.cspflag.org](http://www.cspflag.org). You may also use the signup form on page three of this newsletter. Thank you!

### Recommendations from Friends

Colorado Springs PFLAG does not endorse specific medical or therapy providers, BUT the “Queer Friends Colorado Springs” page on Facebook is a place where people in the community regularly ask and get answers to these questions.



## “Understanding Gender” Free Webinar September 10

Is there someone in your life you wish had 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). The free webinar is designed for parents, family and friends. Gender Spectrum’s Pam Wool will host the webinar.

You can join the meeting by Zoom online or by telephone. If you are joining Zoom for the first time, please join

a few minutes early, as you may need to download a plugin in order to access Zoom. For more information, and to register to participate in the webinar, go to: <http://bit.ly/2uF2ywu>.

Gender Spectrum would love to hear your questions ahead of time, so please include them in your registration form and they will do their best to have Pam answer them.

Gender Spectrum is a nonprofit organization based in San Leandro, California.

### September PFLAG Meeting

By Zoom Online

Tuesday, September 15  
7:00 p.m.

### Conversation and Support

To attend the meeting, please send an email message to:  
[virtualmeeting@cspflag.org](mailto:virtualmeeting@cspflag.org)

You will receive an email with information about how to join the upcoming meeting. If you don’t get this email within 30 minutes, please let us know by sending an email to:

[information@cspflag.org](mailto:information@cspflag.org).

Please note: The link for the meeting changes every month, so don’t use last month’s link!

**Everyone is welcome.**



## “Phoenix Rising” Inside/Out’s 30th Anniversary

Inside/Out Youth Services will celebrate its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with its most important fundraiser of the year, “Ally Up!” on October 8<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. with the theme “Phoenix Rising”. This will be a virtual event on Zoom.

PFLAG has traditionally hosted one or two tables at the “Ally Up!” breakfast. This year supporters are asked to send their checks to Inside/Out Youth Services, 223 North Wahsatch Avenue,

*(Continued on page 2)*



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.

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

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

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

PFLAG Colorado Springs website: [www.cspflag.org](http://www.cspflag.org)

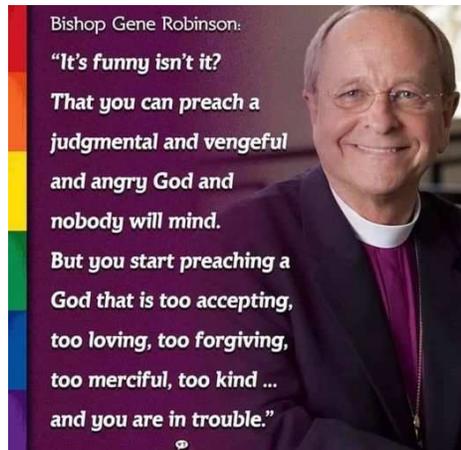
PFLAG Colorado Springs on Facebook: PFLAG - Colorado Springs <https://www.facebook.com/PFLAGCS/>

PFLAG National Office website: [www.pflag.org](http://www.pflag.org)

Newsletter Editor: Karen Flitton Stith  
E-mail: [karenfstith@gmail.com](mailto:karenfstith@gmail.com)

To receive your newsletter by e-mail, send a request to: [information@cspflag.org](mailto:information@cspflag.org)

*Cindy Waldmann does a great job of managing our PFLAG Facebook page: PFLAG—Colorado Springs. Here are few of her recent posts.*



Anchorage Just Became the First City in Alaska to Protect Its Kids from Conversion Therapy

75 U.S. cities and 40% of U.S. states now ban conversion therapy for minors, but anti-gay forces are still calling it a form of religious speech.

See article in *LGBTQNation*: <https://bit.ly/3hOICLm>

Craig Wymer from the U.S. Army Community Service program at Ft. Carson has attended PFLAG chapter meetings on Zoom. He has provided the following phone number (719) 526-4590 and link: <https://bit.ly/34LOlXT> for anyone seeking LGBT support.

**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](http://www.TYES-Colorado.org).

**TransParent Group**

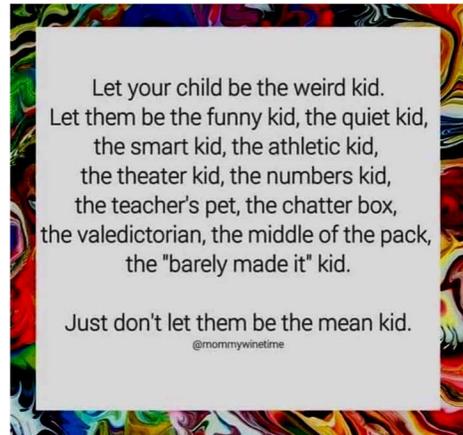
The TransParent group for parents of gender variant and transgender youth is meeting virtually on Zoom on the third Thursday of the month from 6:00—7:30 p.m. This group is offered by Inside Out Youth Services.

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

**On Gay Marriage**

"Love makes my marriage real"  
- Pete Buttigieg

"But political courage made it possible." he continued, pointing out that Joe Biden, of all people, was ahead of the party (and ahead of Obama.).



**Inside/Out Fundraiser**

*(Continued from page 1)*

Suite 101, Colorado Springs, CO 80903. An online link for donations is always available on the website: [www.insideoutys.org](http://www.insideoutys.org).

Inside/Out has been providing services to LGBTQ+ youth ages 13-21 online via Zoom and by phone since March. The pandemic has been hard on youth who are homeless, and also hard on those who live in homes that are not LGBTQ+ supportive. School closings and suspension of in-person programs at Inside/Out has kept youth away from their usual in-person sources of support.

Inside/Out provides clothing, toiletries and food to homeless youth, as well as emotional support and life experiences these youth would not otherwise be able to have.

A smoking cessation program is another important part of the work done with young people.

Inside/Out is once again starting up the Pikes Peak Safe@Schools Coalition with a grant from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to create protective environments for LGBTQ+ youth. Informal meetings will be held on October 5-6. If you would like to attend, please email [tyescha@insideoutys.org](mailto:tyescha@insideoutys.org).



## BULLETIN BOARD

**September 3 — First Thursday Tour of Inside/Out** — Repeated every month. All tours take place on Facebook live starting at 4:00 p.m. For more information, and to sign up for a Tour, send an email to Joy@insideoutys.org.

**September 10 — “Understanding Gender”** - Webinar provided by Gender Spectrum 6:00—7:00 p.m. See p. 1.

**October 8 — “Phoenix Rising”** - The Annual Ally Up! Fundraiser for Inside/Out Youth Services. This is a virtual event on Zoom this year. See p. 1.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.



**The LGBTQ History Project.** On February 5, 2020, History Colorado and the Denver-based Gill Foundation (see: <https://gillfoundation.org/>) announced the Colorado LGBTQ+ Collection Project and the Gill Foundation Associate Curator of LGBTQ History. Emmy-winning researcher and lifelong Coloradan Aaron Marcus accepted the position on the core curatorial staff of Colorado's official state history organization.

Over the next two years, Marcus will curate an exhibit to open in the new Ballantine Gallery at the History Colorado Center in 2022. It will travel to History Colorado sites throughout the state.

His full-time post was made possible by support from the Denver-based Gill Foundation, one of the nation's largest funders of efforts to secure full equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) people.

Robert (Bob) Wingard, of Colorado Springs PFLAG, has been interviewed by the Project. Watch for his story in our October newsletter.

The job focuses on building more robust scholarship and inclusive holdings at History Colorado, which dates back to 1879. The position is also responsible for increased engagement with—and public access to—LGBTQ historical resources and narratives.

“The contributions and voices of LGBTQ people are minimally represented in our collection and interpretation currently,” says Marcus. “This project will help us thoughtfully identify, collect, and make available documents, photos, oral histories and artifacts that tell a compelling and complex story.”

In addition to funding Marcus's position and donating objects and archival materials, the Gill Foundation will support outreach to all corners of the state to capture oral histories and source archival materials.

For the full text of this press release, go to: <https://bit.ly/3bfrjAt> To see a sample of the oral histories already collected, go to: <https://bit.ly/3jt6CUI>.

### Support Colorado Springs PFLAG—Become a Member

You can join at any time of the year. The current membership year extends from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021.

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 contributes \$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. Or pay by credit card online at website: [www.cspflag.org](http://www.cspflag.org) PFLAG is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.