



HeartBeat



PFLAG Olympia, Washington

Issue 124~ Winter 2015

PFLAG-Olympia's Changing Leadership

The year 2015 opens with change of officers on the PFLAG-Olympia Board of Directors. All of the new officers, elected at the December meeting, have served for a minimum of two years on the board. Dana McCormick has stepped up to serve as the new President, and Hilary Robbins has assumed duties of Vice President. Larry Konquist continues to serve as Treasurer and Kathryn Coffman as Secretary. Kristin Stewart and Diane Robbins continue as members of the Board, and we welcome new Board member Jim Fett.

A word from our new Vice President

Hello PFLAG supporters. My name is Hilary Robbins, and I've just been voted in as the new Vice-President of our chapter. It's an honor to be given this exciting opportunity. I attended my first PFLAG meeting 10 years ago. PFLAG helped me to feel secure and comfortable in my own skin. It also gave me the support and resources to come out to my family and friends. After a while I left PFLAG, feeling I didn't need support anymore. In 2010, I decided to attend a meeting for the first time in years, just to check in and visit. I ended up returning, again and again, for almost every meeting. I don't need the kind of support that I originally did, but I still love being around the kinds of people that make up PFLAG. PFLAG-Olympia is like a second home for me, and I feel like it's time to return the support and pay it forward. I've been on the board of directors for almost three years, and now I am ready for some extra responsibility. I'm inspired by the legacy left behind by PFLAG's founder, Jeanne Manford, as well as the awesome parent allies/advocates in our own chapter like Paul and Betty Beeman, Alec and Gabi Clayton, and many others. We are living in amazing times, but despite all the happy talk about spreading marriage equality, and mainstream sports figures coming out, there are still many who are hurting, particularly in the transgender community. I'm thrilled to be working alongside our new President, Dana McCormick. We're both ready for the challenges and rewards that come from running a non-profit organization. For our first year, we have some great and diverse topics for our public meetings. Along with our other amazing board members, we're ready for an exciting new year. We're especially excited to meet those wonderful souls who will be choosing to attend a PFLAG meeting for their very first time.

A note from our outgoing President

Thanks to PFLAG-Olympia
Several years ago I found myself looking for support when my child came out as transgender. I wanted to support him but didn't know much about transgender identity. I was confused and felt very alone. That's when I found PFLAG-Olympia. I met others with LGBTQ family members who did not judge me for asking questions. While our stories were different it felt like family. I went on to make lifelong friends and signed on to be President in 2013. It has been an honor leading this amazing organization. I have made a lot of friends along the way and have helped support and educate others in our community. Our Board appeared on TCTV, had a wonderful fundraiser concert with Pizza Klatch and guided more parents of trans children to needed resources. I plan to stay involved and hopefully plan some fun social events as well as continue my support and advocacy. It has been a journey – and it's not over yet! – Courtney Schrieve, outgoing President PFLAG-Olympia.



PFLAG-Olympia meetings are held the 2nd Sunday of each month, 2-4 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1224 Legion Way SE, Olympia. The first hour includes a welcome, introductions, support circles, and snacks. The second hour is our program.

What is happening at upcoming meetings?

January 11

The Rest of the Alphabet

An asexuality/pansexuality/intersex panel and discussion

February 8

People of Color

An LGBTQ Panel and discussion

March 8

Open House with LGBTQ Organizations Info/Tabling Sessions

Bring a friend!

*Note programs are subject to change. Check our website or FACEBOOK for updates!

Coming in January — **PFLAG OLYMPIA BOWLING NIGHT.**

Watch for details on Facebook and on the ALERT Email List!

PFLAG-OLYMPIA NIGHT AT THE THEATRE (fundraiser): Come show your support for PFLAG May 14, 2015 at Olympia Little Theatre, 8 p.m. "Mama Won't Fly." Check website soon for ticket details!

Our Mission — PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, their families and friends through:

- Support to cope with an adverse society,
- Education to enlighten an ill-informed public, and
- Advocacy to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights.

PFLAG provides opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and gender identity, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.

"Being gay isn't a lifestyle choice, being a bigot is."

~ Jesse LaGreca

Have you paid dues or donated to PFLAG-Olympia lately? Contact our treasurer, Larry Kronquist at treasurer@pflag-olympia.org and he can check dues status. Donations are welcome! Join or donate: <http://www.pflag-olympia.org/membership.html>

What are some other area LGBTQ groups?

- ▼ Capital City PRIDE: Be a part of PRIDE planning for June 2015. The group meets the 1st and 2nd Monday of the month, 6 p.m. at the Urban Onion. Volunteers needed! Contact Anna for more information at anna@capitalcitypride.net.
- ▼ Gender Alliance of the South Sound/Olympia Trans Discussion Group: Every Wednesday evening. Transgender issues discussed. Everyone welcome. 4th floor, 317 4th Ave. East (next to Jake's). Please arrive before 8:15pm, and ring the "UCAN" buzzer outside to access the building. Check out their Facebook pages for more info.
- ▼ SAGE-Olympia—Services and Advocacy for GLBT Elders: promotes the wellness of GLBT elders in the Thurston County area with a range of referrals, services and other activities <http://sageolympia.org>
- ▼ Stonewall Youth: an organization of youth, activists, and allies that empowers lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, questioning, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQQIA) youth to speak for themselves, educate their communities, and support each other. <http://stonewallyouth.org>
- ▼ T.A.G. Olympia's Trans* Advocacy Group: Help bring together fellow Trans identified and allies to continue work toward social change! Meets every Thursday from 4-6 p.m. at the Purple House. <http://youthchangeagents.org>

Go Paperless!

If you would like to help save us postage and paper, please email newsletter@pflag-olympia.org and ask to be put on our **email-only** Newsletter and Alert list. Thanks!



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

<http://www.facebook.com/PFLAG.Olympia>

NEW or RENEWAL PFLAG MEMBERSHIP

Please check the membership types you prefer:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Household \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Educator \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior/Student/Low Income \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocate \$500 |
- New Renewal

Membership \$ _____

Add this amount as my tax-exempt gift \$ _____

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP AND GIFT \$ _____

DATE: _____ PHONE: _____

Signed: _____

PRINT NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

- I want Olympia's quarterly newsletter *HeartBeat* **print version only**.
- I want Olympia's quarterly newsletter *HeartBeat* **sent as email only**.
- I want Olympia's quarterly newsletter *HeartBeat* **both print and email**.
- I want to be added to the PFLAG-Olympia **email alert list**.

PFLAG Olympia, P O Box 12732; Olympia, WA 98508-2732
 PFLAG is a tax-exempt non-profit 501(c)(3) organization
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HeartBeat is a free publication of the PFLAG chapter in Olympia, Washington, now published quarterly. The editors are Alec & Gabi Clayton.

MLK Jr. Day Service Project in Support of Queer and LGBT Youth

Youth-In-Service (YIS) of Community Youth Services and the Boys & Girls Clubs in Lacey and Olympia will host a one-day event for queer youth, creating a safe space for youth to exchange clothing, learn about local resources, play games, and share stories. YIS members are partnering with Stonewall Youth, Pizza Klatch and PFLAG-Olympia to help inform youth about resources these organizations provide.

You can bring clothing to the January 11 PFLAG-Olympia meeting for the clothing drive. PFLAG will be tabling at the event.

When: January 25th 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Where: The Abigail Stuart House, 1002 Washington St. SE, Olympia

Questions? Contact Dana McCormick at president@pflag-olympia.org



Subscribe to the PFLAG-Olympia Alert List!

The PFLAG-Olympia Alert is a one-way announcement email listserv designed to inform our members and friends of upcoming events. To subscribe, go online to: <http://lists.pflag-olympia.org/listinfo.cgi/alert-pflag-olympia.org>



PFLAG
Olympia, Washington

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays

MEETS at 2PM on the second Sunday of each month at First United Methodist Church, 1224 Legion Way SE, Olympia. It is handicap-accessible. In August we meet at 1pm for a potluck picnic in a local park.

DIRECTIONS: From Sylvester Park on Capitol Way and Legion Way, go 12 blocks east on Legion Way to Boundary Street. Turn left around the church. Park in the lot at 5th Avenue and Boundary and enter through the glass doors.

Mailing address:

PO Box 12732; Olympia, WA 98508-2732

For more information:

email: info@pflag-olympia.org

Or go to our website:

<http://pflag-olympia.org>