



ATTENTION: Virtual Meetings Continue

SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS WILL CONTINUE TO MEET VIRTUALLY

The virtual support group meetings via Zoom have worked out well. Until it is safe to return to in-person meetings, we will continue to meet virtually. We encourage you to contact your support group facilitator at any time, as they will remain excellent resources for information. The support group locations, dates, and times will continue to be posted on the PFLAG San Diego County Facebook page. You can join in any of the digital meetings.

Metro Support Group, metrosdc@pflag.com
North County Inland Support Group, RBPowaysdc@pflag.com
North County Coastal Support Group, northcountycoastalsdc@pflag.com
South Bay Support Group, southbaysdc@pflag.com
East County Support Group, eastcountysdc@pflag.com
Ramona Support Group, northcountyinlandsdc@pflag.com
Del Sur support group, 4sdelsursdc@pflag.com

The Support Group information on page three is still listed as it was during in-person meetings.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

The following is part of the statement drafted by San Diego Pride's Black staff and board and supported by San Diego Pride and the San Diego Black LGBTQ Coalition.

"San Diego Pride declares our opposition to the state-sanctioned violence, murder, and terror being perpetrated by law enforcement agencies across the country. This state-sanctioned violence and brutality against Black and brown communities has a history that dates back to the country's first colonizers and shares the same roots as the violence and brutality that the LGBTQ+ community fought back against at Stonewall in 1969. Then, the Stonewall riots - led by Black and brown transgender folks, butch lesbians, street kids, drag queens, gay men, bisexual folks, and gender non-conforming folks of all genders and sexual orientations - sparked a fire in the LGBTQ+ movement and became the annual marker of what we now know as Pride month. Now, the protests and uprising led by Black folks across the country is rekindling a growing fire among all people who believe that Black Lives Matter and who oppose state-sanctioned police violence.

We condemn the killing of George Floyd by police officers in Minneapolis. We condemn the killing of Tony McDade, a Black transgender man, by police officers in Tallahassee, Florida. We condemn the killing of Ahmaud Arbery by white vigilantes while jogging in south Georgia. We condemn the killing of Breonna Taylor by law enforcement officers in Louisville, Kentucky. We condemn the attempted weaponization of police force against Christian Cooper, a Black gay man, by a white woman in New York City. We condemn the unnecessary escalation and aggression by police departments, Sheriffs' departments, military agencies, and ICE, especially that which has been blatantly on display across the country since George Floyd's murder in Minneapolis sparked a tinder box of protest.

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LGBTQ+ YOUTH SUPPORT

For middle school to college age, there is an LGBTQ+ Youth Virtual Support Group every Tuesday at 6:30 pm until August 25. For the link, email info@transfamilysos.org.

LGBTQ+ VICTORY

On June 15, the Supreme Court ruled that existing federal law forbids job discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender-identity, or transgender status. What a major victory for the U.S. LGBTQ+ community. It was a welcomed surprise from an increasingly conservative court.

By a vote of 6-3, the court said Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, makes it illegal for employers to discriminate because of a person's sex. The Trump administration claimed it did not include sexual orientation, gender-identity, or transgender individuals. SCOTUS upheld rulings from lower courts that said sexual orientation discrimination was a form of sex discrimination.

CONGRATS, ATHINA



Athina Reyes, a 2020 scholarship recipient, is pictured receiving her scholarship check. Delia Contreras, College and Transition Coordinator at Monarch School, presented the check to Athina. She will attend Southwestern Community College in the fall.

PFLAG THANKS YOU

General Fund Donations

Jan Garbosky

Douglas Saylor

A huge thank you to Betsy Sheets, PFLAG SDC's corresponding secretary. For years, Betsy has written countless thank you notes to our members and for all aspects of the scholarship program.



The following is a message from Fernando Zweifach López, Executive Director of San Diego Pride. It was written on June 1, 2020. He begins with a quote from Martin Luther King Jr.: “And I must say tonight that a riot is the language of the unheard. And what is it America has failed to hear? ... It has failed to hear that the promises of freedom and justice have not been met. And it has failed to hear that large segments of white society are more concerned about tranquility and the status quo than about justice and humanity.”

The message continues, “Today, the first day of Pride Monday, as the nation rages and mourns in the wake of stolen black lives, I can’t help but reflect on our shared experiences. Pride was a 3-day riot against legal state-sanctioned police violence long before it was a celebration.

To this day we are not free. To this day we are not equal.

The work our LGBTQ community does every single day to fight and advocate for equality and justice for all is vital, necessary work. San Diego Pride’s year-round education and advocacy programs serve that mission.

Pride Celebrations, where we dare to bravely cast our love and joy into the daylight, are themselves acts of protest. The first Pride marches were called ‘Christopher Street Liberation Day Marches,’ but their names changed over

JOIN THE VIRTUAL PRIDE WEEK CELEBRATION

Pride week will go on as planned, virtually at least, despite the Pride Parade and Festival being canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic

San Diego Pride plans online events from **July 11-18** that will aim to digitally recreate the annual event’s mission, advocacy, and spirit of celebration.

The community is invited to participate in the celebration. Members of the LGBTQ+ community are invited to send in videos of themselves describing what Pride means to them. The videos will be shown all day on Pride’s social media channels on **July 18** (see below), the original date for this year’s parade and the first day of the festival.

Fernando Zweifach López, Executive Director of San Diego Pride stated, “The reason why we celebrate and go out individually and as a group and are so joyful is because for the rest of the year, we’re told we’re a moral failure. We’re

time. Our movement chose the word ‘Pride’ in protest and opposition to the weaponized word ‘shame’™ that was used to dehumanize us with dire consequences.

During the Holy Week Uprising of 1968, the nation was moved to riot upon learning of the assassination of black civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968.

In 1969, our community fought back against police violence at Stonewall. A riot we commemorate and honor every year.

The White Night riots in 1979 was sparked by a lack of justice for LGBTQ civil rights leader Harvey Milk.

Now, George Floyd Protests have sparked across the world, calling out for justice and an end to the killing of innocent black lives.

Every LGBTQ person should be taking a stand against anti-black racism and acting to end the violence against our black siblings everywhere. We at San Diego Pride continue to be committed to that hard and meaningful work.

Solidarity. Arm-in-arm. Fighting oppression together. That is our path to liberation.

We are diverse. Our villains are the same.

United we stand. Divided we fall. Together we rise.”

told we’re lesser than and we’re discriminated against. These are acts of celebration and acts of protest against that narrative. Pride is to combat the concept of shame. We give people an opportunity to be together, tell their stories and live their authentic lives, even if it’s only for an hour or one day of the year.” He finds it heartbreaking that we can’t do any of that in person this year.

López said the idea of integrating people’s personal videos into this year’s virtual events is a way of giving community members to express themselves. Cellphone-recorded videos of 15 to 30 seconds can be uploaded at sdpride.org/shareyourpride/. Members of the LGBTQ+ community are encouraged to share how Pride changed their lives and any special memories from past events.

Listed are the schedule of events. Please note, if times and links are not listed, they were not yet posted on sdpride.org. Closer to the events, visit sdpride.org/events/.

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LGBTQ+ YOUTH SUPPORT

From June 22-26, Voices With Impact will be hosting mental health stories told by filmmakers with unique perspectives and lived experience. The world premiere of these films will take place on June 22 and will feature short films around the topics: Mental health issues specific to LGBTQIA+ people and Mental health issues related to the culture of masculinity. There will be a total of 10 short films. The remainder of the week will be a festival of dialogue and discussion in which the filmmakers will lead interactive and enlightening workshops.

The event is free; however, tickets are required:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/8590183290>

VIRTUAL PRIDE WEEK (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

July 11: She Fest, for LGBTQ+ women and their allies. Six to eight hours of live-streamed programming that day will include workshops, interviews with leaders, education, and a pet fashion show (sounds like a must-see).

July 15: 7:00 pm - Pride will host its annual interfaith event as a live-stream with the annual lighting of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral on Sixth Avenue with rainbow lights, along with a discussion on how faith can be a tool for social justice against anti-black and anti-LGBTQ+ violence and hate.

July 17: 6:00 pm the online Spirit of Stonewall Rally will feature awards and speakers honoring the history of gay rights and addressing the challenges that lay ahead.

July 18: Ten hours of programming are planned on, starting in the morning with appearances and performances by the parade's usual contingents, mixed with the personal videos uploaded to the website. In the afternoon, the festival will be recreated with live entertainment by DJs and singers, celebrity appearances, tributes to the black and Latino LGBTQ+ communities, and more.

July 18: Virtual Pride 5K Run + Walk from 8:00 am-5:00 pm. Registration is required: www.bit.ly/5kpride.

Since all of the programming will be offered free online, López hopes viewers will be moved to donate to San Diego Pride, which has set a fundraising goal for the week of \$840,000. That money will go to year-round programming, grants, and the Tracie Jada O'Brien Transgender Student Scholarship. Over the years, Pride has given out more than \$3 million to LGBTQ+-serving organizations.

SUPPORT GROUPS

SAN DIEGO METRO

Meets every 4th Monday at 7:00 pm, at Jewish Family Service, 8788 Balboa Ave, San Diego in Kearny Mesa.

For further information, contact the Info Line:

888-398-0006 or metrosdc@pflag.com

NORTH COUNTY COASTAL

Meets the 1st Monday from 6:30-8:30 pm at Pilgrim UCC, 2020 Chestnut Avenue, Carlsbad. **Annette: 760-518-3345 |**

northcountycoastalsdc@pflag.com

NORTH COUNTY INLAND

Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 pm

St. Bart's Church, 16275 Pomerado Road, Poway.

Jill/Dan: 760-855-9424 | RBPowaysdc@pflag.com

EAST COUNTY

Meets the 3rd Tuesday from 6:00-7:30 pm, El Cajon Library, 201 E. Douglas Avenue, El Cajon.

Bridget: 619-647-6479 | eastcountysdc@pflag.com

SOUTH BAY

Meets 3rd Tuesday from 7:15-8:15, South Bay Youth Center, 1180 Third Avenue, Suite C1, Chula Vista.

Patti: pboman@pflag.com

RAMONA

Meets 1st Tuesday from 6:00-8:00 pm, St. Mary's in the Valley, 1010 12th Street, Ramona.

Belinda: 760-550-7117 | ramonasdc@pflag.com

4S DEL SUR

Meets 2nd Tuesday from 7:00-8:30 pm, Del Sur Ranch House, 15455 Paseo Del Sur, San Diego

Theresa: 4sdelsursdc@pflag.com

POWAY LGBTQ YOUTH SUPPORT/HIGH SCHOOL AND OUR SPACE-POWAY--LGBTQIA/MIDDLE SCHOOL

Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 pm

St. Bart's Church, 16275 Pomerado Road, Poway.

Poway: Al: 858-382-2262 | al@transfamilyosos.org

Our Space: Dez: 760-913-7073 | dez@transfamilyosos.org

MI FAMILIA (Spanish)

Meets 2nd Monday from 6:00-7:30 pm, South Bay Youth Center, 1180 Third Avenue, Suite C1, Chula Vista.

Carolina: cramos@thecentersd.org

TRANSFAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

Support groups held separately for children, teens, & adults to explore topics around gender identity and expressions.

Kathie: 858-382-9156 | info@transfamilyosos.org

BLACK LIVES MATTER (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

San Diego Pride stands in solidarity with the Black community, including the Black members of our own staff, Board, and volunteers. We are part of the Black community, and the Black community is part of the LGBTQ+ community. Our struggles are intertwined and inextricable. As an organization, we recognize and acknowledge that all lives cannot matter until Black lives matter.

We also recognize that the United States is a country that was built on racialized violence, from the genocide of indigenous populations to slavery. This legacy takes time and significant work to undo, and nonprofit organizations committed to social justice are not immured from this American legacy and culture. As organizations, we must commit to doing that work of exploring, addressing, and undoing our own internalized anti-Black racism. San Diego Pride commits to working within our organization, with our Black partner organizations, and with all of our community partner organizations to do this deep and difficult work. Any culture that permits this level of aggression and brutality, especially in an institution with the power and responsibility of enforcing laws, must end.

For years, San Diego Pride has engaged in, and will

continue to require, the harm-reduction work of training law enforcement officers on LGBTQ+ cultural competency and maintaining relationships based on accountability and mutual respect. Maintaining these relationships will focus on keeping our Black and brown community safe from violence, including violence from law enforcement. We have also done the work to lobby and advocate for meaningful police and criminal justice reform in the system that disproportionately criminalizes and punishes Black and brown LGBTQ folks. We will continue to do that work and look for new opportunities to create change -- while acknowledging that policy change is only a harm-reduction strategy. Meaningful change must come from the end of the anti-Black racist culture that allows state-sanctioned violence against Black and brown bodies; not just within San Diego's law enforcement community, but in all law enforcement agencies around the country and in society at large.

While we will continue to support harm-reduction policies and procedures that call for reform within law enforcement agencies, this true change must come at the cultural level. The current culture within law enforcement and across America is untenable and incompatible with valuing Black and brown lives."



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