



News & Views

*Parents, Families, Friends, Allies & Members of the
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Gender
Non-conforming Community*

Volume 16, Number 3

May/June 2015

Get Ready for RI Pride Fest on Saturday, June 20, 2015!

RI PrideFest: IndiVISIBLE will be held on **June 20, 2015**, from **noon to 8pm**, on the South Water Street Greenway, in Providence. Presented by Dark Lady & Alley Cat, PrideFest features a Kids' Zone, Youth Center, over 100 vendors, the Beer/Wine & Spirits Garden, and performances by **American Idol's Crystal Bowersox**, Pearl & the Beard, Shannel from *RuPaul's Drag Race*, Mimi Gonzalez, Sir Ari Gold, Pamela Means, Derek Capobianco, Heather Rose in Clover, Shryne, and so *much* more! And it's all free to the public!

The Illuminated Night Parade kicks off at **8:45pm**, and winds through the streets of downtown Providence.



Our chapter's booth at the 2014 Pride Fest.

Our Chapter will once again have a booth at Pride Fest and, for the first time, we will also be marching in the Illuminated Night Parade. We are actively recruiting marchers and have about a dozen or

so signed up. We will also have a pick-up truck for anyone who wants to participate but is unable to walk the parade route. If you want to make your own signs in support of your loves ones,

please do. We will supply glow stick necklaces and bracelets to wear while marching. We also have a limited number of t-shirts available, so if you want to be **VISIBLE** and show your **PFLAG PRIDE** for your LGBTQ loved ones, we encourage you to join us for an illuminating and fun evening with your fellow PFLAGers! (NOTE: You do not need to be a member of PFLAG to march in the parade with us—so bring your family & friends!) Contact us at pflagprovidence@gmail.com or phone (401) 307-1802

to sign up for the parade or to help at our booth.



Photos from the 2104 RI Pride Illuminated Night Parade.

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

Our Mission

PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and inter-sex persons and their families and friends through:

SUPPORT: To support parents on their journey to understand and accept their gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender children; and to help children, of whatever age, to understand and come out into loving relationships with their families;

EDUCATION: To enlighten an ill-informed public,

ADVOCACY: To end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights.

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

PFLAG is a volunteer grass-roots, tax-exempt, non-profit organization, not affiliated with any political or religious institution.

PFLAG is a welcoming place for parents and friends of all members of the LGBTQ community, but we are much more than that. Those who identify as gay, lesbian bisexual, transgender, or gender non-conforming are also encouraged to attend our meetings, with or without their family members. Parents and friends may come with or without their loved ones who are members of the LGBTQ community.

Confidentiality is assured.

PFLAG/Greater Providence

President: Sandra Richard

Vice-President: Jane Eastman

Treasurer: James Rotondo

Secretary: Denise Messier Reynolds

Members-at-Large: Jill Duff, Roy Eastman, Barbara Metz, Scott Mirani, Christine Noel, Dianne & Joe Ordog

Ex-Officio Past President: Myra Shays

Newsletter Editor: Sandra Richard

**WE'RE
HERE
FOR YOU!**



news from our chapter



Sarah Bowman and her wife Alexis Thompson talk about the proud moments and some of the pitfalls of parenting as a same sex couple at our May meeting.

Married with Children: Learning About LGBTQ Families at Our May Meeting

Sarah Bowman and Alexis Thompson graciously accepted our invitation as our guest speakers at our May meeting. They are a lesbian couple living in Rhode Island who spoke to attendees about their life as a family with two young children. Although much of their life is not much different than any other couple with young children, they did describe some of the hoops they had to jump through to ensure the legal status of their family, such as Sarah legally adopting both children, even though they are legally married, just to create an even stronger bond as a legal parent. They also spoke about how government is slow to change in terms of creating legal documents that remove such wording as "mother" and "father" or "husband" and "wife" and replacing them with non-gender defining words such as "parent" and "spouse."

We thoroughly appreciated their letting us into their lives, including the photos of their family that were passed around!



PFLAG 2015-16 Board Elected at May Meeting

Congratulations to the following slate of candidates who were elected unanimously at the

May meeting: President: Sandra Richard, Vice-president: Jane Eastman, Treasurer: James Rotondo, Secretary: Denise Messier-Reynolds, Members-at-Large: Barbara Metz, Roy, Eastman, Scott Mirani, Jill Duff, Christine Noel, Dianne and Joe Ordog. Myra Shays remains as an Ex-Officio member of the Board as the Past President.



Check out Our Chapter's Updated Website!

We have totally revamped our website at www.pflagprovidence.org! We are especially excited about our major improvement of now being able to join or donate to our chapter on-line via PayPal!



Also, when you visit our site you can find out how your dollars can do double duty by donating to PFLAG when you shop on-line! You will find the information on our Home page!

We have also added a blog page and a section where we can include your personal stories; so PLEASE SHARE! You can send us your stories by emailing them to us at pflagprovidence@gmail.com. We will use first names only or aliases if you prefer. Just let us know and put "Personal Story" in the subject line when you send it to us. You can keep it short if you like. **Help us tell our stories!**

We will be adding more information as we develop the site, so stay tuned and visit our site often!



PFLAG Greater Providence has entered the Twittersphere! You can now follow us @PFLAGProvRI on Twitter. Help us increase our followers with retweets.



Massachusetts Ranks Sixth for LGBT-friendly Laws, According to MAP Study

Most people think of Massachusetts as the pace setter when it comes to equal treatment of people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. But a study out this week says the state ranks only sixth among the states and the District of Columbia when it comes to having LGBT-friendly laws and policies. *(Editor's note: the list at the end shows MA at #7, but with Washington and New Jersey tied at 5th, Massachusetts actually ranks 6th.)*

The ratings were produced by the Movement Advancement Project, a think tank funded by 16 pro-LGBT foundations and philanthropists.

Massachusetts was among only 12 states and the District of Columbia to merit a "high equality" status — states most friendly to LGBT people. But its score lagged behind California, Oregon, Vermont, Washington, and New Jersey, as well as Washington, D.C.

Massachusetts was the first state in the nation to allow same-sex couples to marry. It has a statewide law prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in both public and private employment, and the state prohibits such discrimination in housing, credit, public accommodations, and public schools.

But, says Ineke Mushovic, executive director of the Movement Advancement Project, also known as MAP, Massachusetts doesn't treat same-sex couples the same as opposite-sex couples when they are unmarried.

"If a heterosexual couple shows up at the hospital together and they're not married and the woman says, 'This is the father of my child,' then it's accepted. He's written as the father on the birth certificate, and he would not have to adopt his partner's child in order to be a legal parent," said Mushovic. "But

same-sex couples have to either marry or go through an adoption process to get legal recognition."

Another shortcoming in Massachusetts law, said Heron Greenesmith, a researcher who worked on the report, comes in health and safety laws. California, the top-rated state, has a law prohibiting the use of "conversion therapy" on people under 18 as an attempt to change their sexual orientation from homosexual to heterosexual. Massachusetts has no such law.

Another example: Some states prohibit private insurance companies from discriminating based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Massachusetts does not.

And unlike many other of the states with "high equality" laws, Massachusetts does not have a family leave law that covers same-sex couples and also does not make it possible for transgender people to obtain birth certificates that reflect their gender accurately.

Massachusetts' overall score in the MAP study is 23.25 on a scale that ranges from a high of 34 to a low of -10.

The scores were calculated by giving one point for each law or policy in the state that supports equal treatment of LGBT people and deducting a point for each that is hostile to them. Fractions of points were awarded if local ordinances provided protections in parts of the state.

In addition to Massachusetts, four other New England states rank among the top 12 "high equality" states: Connecticut (21.5), Maine (21), Rhode Island (22), and Vermont (25.25). New Hampshire ranked 22d, with a score of 8 points, which was characterized as providing "medium equality."

The report, "Mapping LGBT Equality in America," ranked California at the top with 29.25 points, followed by Oregon (28.5), Washington, D.C., (27.5), Vermont (25.25), Washington (24.5), New Jersey (24.5).

At the bottom of the rankings is Louisiana, with a -6 rating. Just above Louisiana are Alabama (-5), Michigan (-5), Tennessee (-5), and Georgia (-4.5).

Overall, the study concludes the country has "a long way to go before we achieve true equality for LGBT people." It notes that, even if the Supreme Court strikes down laws in states next month that ban same-sex couples from marrying, 52 percent of LGBT people will still be without recourse if they are fired from their jobs or kicked out of their

apartments because they are LGBT.

Topping the list

One point was awarded for each law or policy that supports equal treatment of LGBT people, and a point was deducted for each that is hostile to them.

1. California (29.25)
2. Oregon (28.5)
3. Washington, D.C. (27.5)
4. Vermont (25.25)
5. Washington (24.5)
6. New Jersey (24.5)
7. Massachusetts (23.25)

Credit: Lisa Keen, Globe Correspondent, May 28, 2015



Become a PFLAG Volunteer!

"We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give."—Winston Churchill

Our PFLAG chapter operates with an all-volunteer Board of Directors who are dedicated to fulfilling the mission of PFLAG for its members.

We hope to grow and expand our outreach in Rhode Island, but we need your help to do so. Some forms of help are short and simple—like signing up to bring refreshments to one of our support meetings, picking up some of our new brochures to distribute in businesses and doctors' offices you frequent, or helping staff our booth at Pride Fest in June. Others involve a long commitment, such as serving on a committee to develop a scholarship program or serve as a speaker as part of our education and outreach efforts.

We are also looking for someone to take over the design and production of this newsletter. Right now we publish every other month. If anyone is interested in taking on this task or volunteering for any of the above needs, please contact us at pflagprovidence@gmail.com.

Don't forget to "Like" us on Facebook www.Facebook.com/PFLAGGreaterProvidence,RI and "Follow" us on Twitter @PFLAGProvRI.

news from all over



Join PFLAG in Nashville for the 2015 National Convention — We Are the Change!

Join PFLAG supporters from across the country for two days and nights of honing skills, building relationships, and celebrating. Whether you're a seasoned leader or a new chapter member, it's the best way to gain new perspectives for your efforts to be a changing force in your community. Secure your spot now! Connect. Learn. Change. At the 2015 PFLAG National Convention to be held **October 16-18, 2015** you'll learn from experts from the PFLAG chapter network, leaders in the LGBTQ movement, and changemakers who are ready to share their knowledge to make you more effective than ever in moving equality forward. Register at www.pflag.org.

PFLAG's work started with one mother from New York City who raised a sign...and changed the world. As a catalyst for change, she inspired others to step up and advocate for change in their own communities, home states, and at the federal level. Now, for 43 years, more families, friends, and allies have united their voices with those of their lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer loved ones, standing up together in support of civil rights and equality and against discrimination and hatred.

This year's schedule will be full to the brim with training sessions, panel discussions, networking opportunities and, of course, time to explore all that the great city of Nashville has to offer.

This year's convention is in Nashville, Tennessee, at the beautiful, affordable, and convenient Nashville Airport Marriott Hotel. The low rates for hotel rooms with free hotel parking make attendance at the 2015 PFLAG National Convention more affordable, and easy to



PFLAG makes the world better, family by family. Become a member of our family.

Use the form on the back page to join today or visit our website at www.pflagprovidence.org to join or donate on-line!

navigate, than ever before! Nashville is an exciting city where all attendees can support our great chapters in the Volunteer State and send a strong message that PFLAG's values are America's values. There will be incredible learning opportunities and the chance to network with PFLAG members and supporters from across the country.



Let Love Define Family Series Explores LGBT Family Vacations

There are a few things you hear over and over again from LGBT families that take LGBT-themed vacations: "It's completely open and comfortable and a place where you are surrounded by people who are experiencing life in a similar way. It's not about the destination, it is all about the experience."

Jeffrey and Chris Hietikko-Parsons and their 8 1/2 year old son, Henry, from New Jersey, have been on 10 trips so far with R Family Vacations. "We always have an amazing time," they explained. "Everything is so well planned and there is a high caliber of activities and entertainment. It's not like other vacations -- these feel like we're on a trip with our extended family."

Planning a vacation can be stressful for everyone involved: Where do we go? How do we get there? What do we do when we get there? What if we get bored? For the LGBT family, there is also the added challenge of finding a place to truly relax and feel comfortable. So, an entire industry was born to create the perfect combination of relaxation and adventure for everyone!

There is no doubt that family trips create memories and bonds that last a lifetime, but a big part of these vacations seem to be the sense of community and spending time in a place where kids, and adults, feel like their family isn't so different.

One gay couple conveyed the story about how in just the past week, while going about their day-to-day business with their two children, they were asked by two waiters and a cashier, "Where is the woman of the house?" The quick response is that their 13 year-

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LGBT Family Vacations *(Continued from Page 4.)*

old daughter is our woman of the household. It can be a subtle reminder that some in society still see LGBT families as a sort of anomaly. That could be a reason why LGBT group travel is growing. It's not just the activities, it is more about escaping to a world of acceptance and true relaxation.

"Where we live, being a gay family is not a big deal," said Jeremy Gransky from Massachusetts, "but there are not many other LGBT families around us, so being in that environment with other families like us makes all the difference." Jeremy and husband John Gransky, with two kids Will and Natalie, are looking forward to their 11th trip with R Family this summer. "The kids are a big focus for us," explains R Family Vacations co-founder Kelli Carpenter. "The trips will look like every other family vacation, but on a bigger scale. We're always finding ways to bring wonder and excitement to the experience for everyone, but especially the kids."

Stephen Botte from San Jose, and his son Francesco, continue on these excursions just for the experiences they have. "In society you're the gay family, but with these trips you just a family enjoying a vacation. It's a total VIP experience that you get to share with thousands of people just like you."



Since LGBT families are growing, so is the industry. Two of these companies, R Family Vacations and Olivia Travel, are actually teaming up to provide a new inclusive package for everyone in the family!

"We've been in the business of lesbian travel for over 40 years and people started asking us about family trips," explained Judy Dlugacz, founder of Olivia Travel. "Instead of trying to do it ourselves, we decided to partner with the best in the business, R Family Vacations, to create something wonderful for everybody."

Both travel companies discussed how the LGBT travel market has changed and evolved to offer an array of destinations and options for singles, parents, kids and even extended family and friends.

Gregg Kaminsky, co-founder of R Family Vacations, said, "we started by providing trips for gay and lesbian families, but quickly discovered that people were bringing their parents,

aunts and uncles, friends, and it developed into this great experience that was welcoming to all."

The first collaboration between Olivia Travel and R Family Vacations will be a Mexican adventure at the Hard Rock Resort in Nuevo Vallarta, July 9-16, 2016.

Stephen was recently at the resort for an Atlantis vacation with some friends. "I was at this gorgeous resort and was sitting by the pool and my only thought was I wish that Francesco could experience this. Now he can, and we've already got the dates marked off on our calendar!"

Judy Dlugacz sums it up best: "we're working hard to provide the best in activities and entertainment that will have something for everyone, no matter your definition of 'family,' this is the family vacation for you!"

Credit: JamesMichael Nichols, The Huffington Post, 5/08/2015



After 15 Years as 'Father' and 'Son,' Gay Couple in Pennsylvania Finally Marry

After 15 years of living -- technically -- as "father" and "son," a same-sex Pennsylvania couple were finally able to marry this week.

Norman MacArthur and Bill Novak, both in their 70s, said "I do" in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, on Sunday, Yahoo Parenting reports. The two have been together since their 20s and registered as a domestic partnership in New York in 1994. But they moved to Pennsylvania a few years later, where their partnership was not recognized. The only way they could have a formal legal relationship, with all the rights that entailed, was if one of them legally adopted the other.

"It struck me as fairly unusual, but we looked into it and discovered that other couples had done it. [Without the adoption] we would be legally strangers," MacArthur told Yahoo. "Most importantly, it would allow us visitation rights in a hospital, and gaining of knowledge if one of us was in the hospital. With new HIPAA privacy laws, hospitals are very constrained in what

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Gay Couple Finally Marry *(Continued from Page 5.)*

they can say to other people. If we were legally related, I would be allowed into the ER and entitled to know what Bill's condition was if anything should happen."

Novak adopted MacArthur in 2000 -- "Bill is two years older than I am," MacArthur told Yahoo, "so that was the only reason" -- and the men were father and son, at least on paper, for the next 15 years. The ban on same-sex marriage was ruled unconstitutional in Pennsylvania last year, and the two submitted a petition to vacate the adoption decree. That petition was granted on May 14, allowing Novak and MacArthur to finally marry.



The moment when a judge agreed to vacate the adoption was an emotional one for the couple, and for the 30 friends who'd joined them in the courtroom.

"The courtroom burst into applause. I burst into tears," MacArthur told the Associated Press. "They were certainly happy tears. After months of investigating ways that we could do this and finally having the decision coming down in our favor, I'm still walking 3 feet above the ground."

Credit: Cavan Sieczkowski, The Huffington Post, 5/29/2015



These Insurers Offer Transgender Health Care Coverage

More employers than ever are embracing health coverage for transgender employees, as well as non-discrimination protections. This is largely a result of the proven low cost of providing transgender-inclusive care, since transgender adults represent just 0.3% of the U.S. adult population.

Despite the growing number of inclusive employer-sponsored plans, the American health care system remains a challenge for people seeking transgender health care, as transgender individuals continue to face discrimination, harassment, and barriers to access. Even finding a covered therapist or psychologist who deals with gender dysphoria can be a challenge, particularly for patients with certain

insurance plans, such as HMOs and EPOs, that limit coverage to a specific network of providers. On top of that, local providers may already be at full capacity.

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) did provide some long-overdue changes that have helped more transgender people get equal coverage. Previously, transgender patients were often denied coverage on the basis of a pre-existing condition, but the ACA has prohibited the denial of coverage on that basis. The health care law also prohibits sex discrimination, and in 2012, the Department of Health and Human Services clarified in a letter that this provision does indeed apply to transgender people.

Reports on transgender inclusivity

Nevertheless, there are loopholes with the ACA that have allowed discrimination against transgender people to continue. For example, in order to obtain subsidized health insurance through the marketplace, the gender marker on the insurance policy must match the gender marker on the patient's social security card. An increasing number of state laws have provided some relief. By the end of 2014, eight states had banned insurance companies from explicitly excluding surgeries for transgender people, and a few states even began offering coverage through Medicaid.

The frustrating shortcomings of the American health care system haven't made it easy for transgender patients. The good news is several groups provide useful resources for the American transgender population. The Transgender Law Center published a 2012 paper addressing questions about gender identity discrimination in health care settings. In a report updated in March 2014, the National Center for Transgender Equality explains the health care rights of transgender individuals and provides instructions to file discrimination complaints.

The Human Rights Campaign (HRC) consistently releases reports on transgender issues, such as its annual Corporate Equality Index, assessing corporate policies and practices pertinent to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender employees. It was this 2015 study that found one-third of Fortune 500 companies provide transgender-inclusive coverage to employees.

To help patients navigate the confusing health insurance landscape, HRC recently published a list of 24 private health insurance plans that offer transgender health care benefits.

Health plans providing transgender care

The following list was compiled by HRC in December 2014. These insurers offer plans without blanket exclusions for transgender-related health care. Click through to see each carrier's guidelines for transgender-related treatments.

HRC's disclaimer reads, "Please note that these plans are not endorsed by the HRC Foundation, but are presented to help navigate inclusive care offerings to the extent that plan documentation is publicly available."

Aetna:

Coverage for "Gender Reassignment Surgery"

Amerigroup:

Coverage for "Gender Reassignment Surgery"

(Continued on Page 7.)

Transgender Health Care Coverage *(Continued from Page 6.)*

Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield:

Coverage for "Gender Reassignment Surgery"

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts:

Coverage for "Transgender Services"

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan:

Coverage for "Gender Reassignment Surgery"

Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina:

Coverage for "Gender Reassignment Surgery"

Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota:

Coverage for "Medical and Surgical Treatment of Gender Identity Disorder"

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island:

Coverage for "Gender Reassignment Surgery"

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Tennessee:

Coverage for "Gender Reassignment" (see General Surgery, Gender Reassignment)

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont:

Coverage for "Gender Reassignment Surgery for Gender Identity Disorder"

Blue Shield of California:

Coverage for "Gender Reassignment Surgery"

Care First:

Coverage for "Transgender Services"

Cigna:

Coverage for "Gender Reassignment Surgery"

Emblem Health:

Coverage for "Gender Reassignment Surgery"

Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield (Central New York, Rochester, Utica/Watertown):

Coverage for "Sex Reassignment Surgery"

Group Health Cooperative:

"Transgender Services Program"

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care:

"Transgender Services for Fully-Insured Subscribers and Dependents"

Health Net:

Coverage for "Gender Reassignment Surgery"

HealthPartners:

Coverage for "Gender Reassignment Surgery"

Highmark:

Coverage for "Gender Reassignment Surgery"

Independence Blue Cross:

Coverage for "Sex Reassignment Surgery (SRS) for Gender Identity Disorder"

UnitedHealthcare:

Coverage for "Gender Identity Disorder/ Gender Dysphoria Treatment"

Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield:

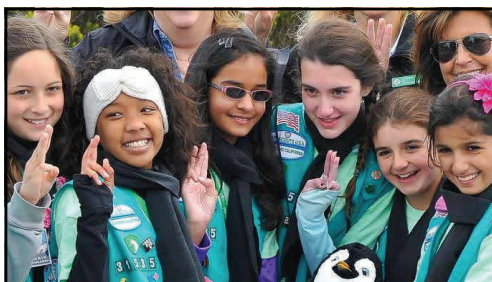
Coverage for "Gender Reassignment Surgery"

WellPoint – UniCare:

Coverage for "Gender Reassignment Surgery"

Read more: <http://www.cheatsheet.com/personal-finance/these-insurers-offer-transgender-health-care-coverage.html?a=viewall#ixzz3bYWnjCM2>

Credit: *Chloe Della Costa, www.cheatsheet.com*
May 27, 2015



The Girl Scouts Are Making History for All the Trans Little Girls of America

For years, the Girl Scouts of the USA has made a commitment to inclusivity by welcoming girls of all kinds into the organization, including transgender girls. A recent petition attacked that position, demanding that they rescind the policy and refuse to allow trans girls to participate. In response, the Girl Scouts has reaffirmed their inclusive stance with Andrea Bastiani Archibald, the Chief Girl Expert for Girl Scouts USA stating, "Luckily, we don't serve our critics. We are proud to serve all girls."

The Girl Scouts of the USA created its first official policy on trans girls four years ago, committing to including trans girls as often as possible. The group's statement on the topic reads, "Placement of transgender youth is handled on a case-by-case basis, with the welfare and best interests of the child and the members of the troop/group in question a top priority. That said, if the child is recognized by the family and school/ community as a girl and lives culturally as a girl, then Girl Scouts is an organization that can serve her in a setting that is both emotionally and physically safe."

In response to the petition, Archibald wrote a blog post on the Girl Scouts USA website in which she stated: "The foundation of diversi-

ty that Juliette Gordon Low established runs throughout Girl Scouting to this day. Our mission to build 'girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place' extends to all members, and through our program, girls develop the necessary leadership skills to advance diversity and promote tolerance."

While some groups object to the Girls Scouts' policies, many other individuals and organizations are applauding their commitment to inclusiveness and their refusal to bow to pressure. As Dr. Marcie Bianco wrote on Mic: "There is no place for discrimination in the feminist movement. Transphobia, the Girl Scouts know, is simply a form of sexism... the Girl Scouts will continue to do what it has done for over 100 years: motivate young girls to become strong and confident, and teach them leadership skills to create a better America."

A Mighty Girl congratulates the Girl Scouts of the USA for standing strong in support of all girls who love scouting! To read more on Mic, visit <http://bit.ly/1SoErnX>

For several books starring transgender girls, check out "I Am Jazz" for ages 4 to 8 (<http://www.amightygirl.com/i-am-jazz>), "Being Emily" for ages 14 and up (<http://www.amightygirl.com/being-emily>), and "Luna" for ages 14 and up (<http://www.amightygirl.com/luna>).

For more books for children and teens starring LGBTQ Mighty Girls, visit <http://www.amightygirl.com/books/fiction/multicultural-fiction?cat=53>.

For several books about Girl Scouts founder Juliette Gordon Low, we recommend "First Girl Scout: The Life of Juliette Gordon Low" for ages 9 to 12 (<http://www.amightygirl.com/first-girl-scout>), "Here Come the Girl Scouts!" for ages 4 to 8 (<http://www.amightygirl.com/here-come-the-girl-scouts>), and "Juliette Low: Girl Scout Founder" for ages 8 to 11 (<http://www.amightygirl.com/juliette-low-girl-scout-founder>).

And, for many books for children and teens that encourage acceptance of differences, be they due to gender, race, ethnicity, religion, class, sexual orientation, appearance, or ability, visit our "Tolerance & Acceptance" book section at <http://www.amightygirl.com/books/personal-development/values?cat=216>.

Credit: *Marcie Bianco, Mic.com*

Chapter Meetings

PFLAG/Greater Providence meets the first Wednesday of each month from 6:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.:

The MET School (Unity Building)
325 Public Street
Providence, Rhode Island

Upcoming Meetings

July 1, 2015
August 5, 2015
September 2, 2015
October 7, 2015
November 4, 2015
December 2, 2015

Contact Us

PFLAG/Greater Providence
PO Box 41344, Providence, RI 02940
Phone/Text: (401) 307-1802

www.pflagprovidence.org
pflagprovidence@gmail.com



Ideas for Topics/Speakers?

Do you have a specific topic you would like to have addressed by a speaker or know of anyone whom you would like to recommend as a speaker for our Chapter? If so, please contact **Scott at scmpmr33@gmail.com**.

Member Resources

Rhode Island Bi Resource Network

<http://www.ribinetwork.org>
<http://www.facebook.com/TheOtherBWord>

SAGE Rhode Island

235 Promenade Street, Suite 500, Box 18
Providence, RI 02908
401-528-3259
sageriinfo@gmail.com

TGI Network of Rhode Island

PO Box 40365, Providence, RI 02940
info@tginetwork.org
(401) 441-5058 (voicemail)
Family Support Group meets 2nd Monday each month from 6:30-8:30 pm at Bell Street Parish House, Bell Street, Providence

Youth Pride, Inc.

743 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903
(401) 421-5626
info@youthprideri.org
<http://www.youthprideri.org>

LGBT Caregiver Support Group

Child & Family Elder Care
Calvary United Methodist Church
200 Turner Road, Middletown, RI 02842
jgrapentine@childandfamilyri.com
(401) 848-4119
1st & 3rd Tuesdays each month from 10:00—11:00 a.m.

Blogs of Interest

Faith Topics

Susan Cottrell
<http://www.FreedHearts.org>

Kathy Baldock

<http://www.canyonwalkerconnections.com>

LGBTQ Issues

Think Progress
<http://thinkprogress.org/lgbt/issue/>

The Huffington Post

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/tag/lgbt-blogs>

Parenting a Transgender Child Gender Mom

<http://gendermom.wordpress.com/>

Raising My Rainbow

<http://raisingmyrainbow.com/>

Facebook Groups of Interest

Interweave Channing

Parents of Transgender Children
(Closed Support Group)

The Facebook Transgender Alliance
(Closed Support Group)

The Rhode Island LGBT Center



Check us out on Facebook at
www.Facebook.com/PFLAG
Greater Providence, RI



**Greater
Providence
Chapter**

Membership Application

Yes! I want to be a supporting member of PFLAG.

Please provide the information requested below and make your check payable to: **PFLAG/Greater Providence**. You may bring this form with your payment to the next chapter meeting or mail to: **PFLAG, P. O. Box 41344, Providence, RI 02940**. You can also join or donate on-line by visiting our website at www.pflagprovidence.org.

☐ Household \$36 ☐ Individual \$24 ☐ Student/Limited Income \$16

☐ Additional Contribution \$ _____ in ☐ Honor or ☐ Memory of: _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone No. _____ E-mail _____

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