PFLAG Greater Providence
P. O. Box 41344
Providence, RI 02940
(401) 307-1802
Email: pflagprovidence@gmail.com
www.pflagprovidence.org

Meetings
6:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.
First Wednesday of each month

The Met School
Unity Building
325 Public Street
Providence, RI 02905

HISTORY SNAPSHOT. The idea for PFLAG began in 1972 when Jeanne Manford marched with her son, Morty, in New York's Christopher Street Liberation Day March, the precursor to today's Pride parade. After many gay and lesbian people ran up to Jeanne during the parade and begged her to talk to their parents, she decided to begin a support group. Her single voice, which called on society to treat all of its citizens with understanding and respect, has been joined by tens of thousands of voices over the years—both straight and gay—to make PFLAG the foremost family voice on issues crucial to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and gender non-conforming people, and their parents, families and friends.

- PFLAG helps parents to understand and accept their LGBTQ children;
- PFLAG helps LGBTQ people—of all ages—understand and come out into honest relationships with their parents;
- PFLAG helps society understand and respect people of all orientations and gender identities.
- Physicians, clergy and therapists often refer clients to PFLAG.

All are welcome to attend our meetings without charge.

Call our Help Line:
(401) 307-1802

PFLAG
Greater Providence Chapter
Parents, Friends and Members of the LGBTQ Community
Giving Caring, Confidential Support When You Need It Most

PFLAG Founder, Jeanne Manford marching with her son Morty in 1972 in support of gay rights.
OUR VISION
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.

We are parents, friends and members of LGBTQ community. We are committed to helping other families learn what we have learned, and to help change attitudes and create an environment of understanding so that all LGBTQ people can live with dignity and respect.

Our Mission
Through our core values of meeting people where they are and collaborating with others, PFLAG seeks to realize our vision through:

- Support for families, allies and people who are LGBTQ.
- Education for ourselves and others about the unique issues and challenges that people who are LGBTQ face.
- Advocacy in our communities to change attitudes and create policies and laws that achieve full equality for people who are LGBTQ.

How do people know they are LGBTQ?
Some people say they “felt different” or knew they were attracted to people of the same sex from the time they were very young. Some transgender people talk about feeling from an early age that their own personal gender identity did not match the physical gender they were assigned at birth. Others may not discover and understand their sexual orientation or gender identity until they are adolescents or adults.

What is my role as a parent, family member or friend?
When someone “comes out,” parents, family and friends are often understandably consumed with their own concerns and need time to adjust. Nevertheless, it’s important to remember the critical role they play in their child’s or friend’s adjustment and ultimate happiness.

A recent study indicates that when families show support for their loved one who comes out—by listening carefully, openly discussing sexual orientation or gender identity, attending events, or taking other supportive action—the LGBTQ person will have greater self-esteem and be more likely to be happy and well-adjusted.

Monthly Meetings
Our meetings are relaxed, safe, and non-judgmental. Everyone has an opportunity to speak, if they wish to do so; and discussions are confidential. Participants often find others with similar issues, and discussion helps relieve feelings of confusion, isolation, anger, or helplessness. A wide selection of resource materials are available. On alternate months, we also devote a portion of these meetings to speakers. PFLAG offers a wonderful opportunity for families, friends and LGBTQ people to learn and grow together.

Greater Providence Chapter
With 200,000 members and supporters, and local affiliates in more than 400 communities across the U.S. and abroad, PFLAG is the largest grassroots-based family organization of its kind. Founded in 1973, PFLAG is a non-profit organization and is not affiliated with any religious or political institutions.

The Greater Providence Chapter was founded in 1998. The chapter serves as a lifeline to hundreds of parents and families, guiding them through the journey to understand their LGBTQ children and eventually come to full acceptance of the gift they are to their families.

When you become a supporting Household or Individual Member of Greater Providence PFLAG, you automatically get a PFLAG National membership too and receive the PFLAGpole Newsletter from PFLAG National. Join or donate today using the attached membership form or go to our website: www.pflagprovidence.org to join or donate online.

Total Amount: _______________