

# PFLAG

**BUFFALO/NIAGARA**



**There will be no Sharing Meeting in July.**

**We are still here for you.**

**Reach out through the Helpline at 716-884-0384.**

We meet because someone close to us has come out as LGBTQIA+. We try to help one another in a positive manner. Although we do not always agree, we try to be understanding. We offer help, but do not force ourselves on others. We strive to maintain anonymity while sharing on a level that is comfortable.

## UNITY AND COMMUNITY



*From left: Stonewall President Bryan Ball, Buffalo Mayor Brown, activist Carol Speser*



*Photo Exhibit / PFLAG at 1<sup>st</sup> parade*



*Merchandise given to attendees*

*PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara members Lisbeth Ball and Julie Christiano attended the City of Buffalo's Pride Flag raising on May 28<sup>th</sup> at Buffalo City*



*Hall. Being honored were the first Buffalo Pride Parade (1994) marchers and other local trailblazers; each of these pioneers helped raise the Pride Flag.*

*Afterward inside City Hall, an exhibit of Carol Speser's 1994 Pride photographs gave insight into the beginnings of local Pride events. Carol's photographs remembered and honored the strong people who went public in a time when it was not an easy or safe thing to do.*

*It was a very special 30 year Pride parade anniversary and flag raising event. PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara was privileged to attend. We send our heartfelt thanks to Carol Speser for bringing history to light with her wonderful exhibit and to all those who helped make this a truly special day.*

## **GRANT FUNDS HAVE IMPACT**

*Nathan Monaco (Charter High School for Applied Technologies) shared how the granted funds he recently received from PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara were used. Please read his letter about the special day made possible with the help of PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara funding.*



To Our Friends at PFLAG,

Thank you so much for your donation to the Gender-Sexuality Alliance at the Charter High School for Applied Technologies. On Friday May 17, we brought 30 GSA students from our high school and visited 20 GSA members in our middle school for 2 hours. During that time, we had team building, experience sharing, and began creating a bond that will connect teenagers to a community from middle school through high school.



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After our middle school visit our students traveled back to the high school where our cafeteria became the headquarters for our Day of Tolerance. In our cafeteria students handed out pride flags, face painting, and other merchandise. There were also great discussions and questions between the club and our school's students. I can only imagine what it might have looked like to others to see such a presence in a public school met with kindness and warmth from other students, staff, and administration.

Your donation helped our students have transportation, pride merchandise to express themselves, and facilitated interactions between teenagers in a safe space that may not have previously been available. A major point of emphasis

for our GSA is that we cannot just tell people about the LGBTQ+ community or inform them about what a word

means. Others need the opportunity to speak with you, get to know you, and respect you because the students in our GSA do not just represent themselves. The students represent an entire demographic. You will be happy to know that the CSAT GSA not only represented themselves with pride and kindness, but the entire LGBTQ+ community.



Your relationship with our club over the last two years has caused so much joy and excitement for LGBTQ+ youth. Here are some photographs of the day that show how the donation was used, and you may feel free to show them as you please.

Yours in solidarity,

Nathan Monaco, GSA Advisor

Charter High School for Applied Technologies

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### **SCHOLARSHIP RESULTS**



This year's three \$500.00 scholarships have been awarded. The Elizabeth "Babs" Conant Memorial Scholarship was given to Maeve from Mt. St. Mary's Academy. Friends of Babs, Susan Clements and Kay Patterson, added to the \$500.00 award with an additional \$150.00.

Grem, who attended Edge Academy, received the Marvin L. Henchbarger Scholarship, and Izzy from Randolph High School was awarded the Mary L. Hewitt Memorial Scholarship.

Criteria for judging focus on support of LGBTQIA+ events and community members, determination, integrity, and future advocacy plans.

PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara wishes these deserving awardees success in their college studies. It is heartwarming to find such caring students in our Western New York Schools.

## ***In other news. . .***

### ***PFLAG PRIDE PACKS AND MERCHANDISE DISTRIBUTED***

Last month, we offered Pride-goers the chance to receive a Pride Pack with PFLAG merchandise to use at the parade and Pride events. We also distributed PFLAG items at the flag raising and sent a pack to each scholarship winner.

We thank all who responded and hope the flags, fans, pins, and bracelets were used and enjoyed. We also shared packs with our scholarship winners.

We are happy to have received such wonderful merchandise from PFLAG National for us to share during Pride and all year.

### ***HEALTH CARE CONFERENCE***

Board members Sharon Barrett and Julie Christiano attended The Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Science conference, *The Visibility of Gender-Affirming Healthcare in Buffalo*. People attended in-person or virtually. Each of the presentations was informative, from the personal stories to the medical discussions. The *Outpatient* group put together a comprehensive event. We are so glad that it was so well-attended and so well-received. We send our




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appreciation to the University of Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and the medical students for inviting us to the conference and for focusing on such an important and topic.

Jacobs School of Medicine  
and Biomedical Sciences  
University at Buffalo



OUTpatient


OUTPATIENT PRESENTS:  
**VISIBILITY OF GENDER AFFIRMING  
HEALTHCARE IN BUFFALO**

**FREE EVENT  
DINNER INCLUDED  
\*CME CREDIT  
AVAILABLE\***

**TUESDAY  
MAY 7, 2024  
5:00PM - 7:20PM**

**LOCATION:  
Jacobs School of  
Medicine and  
Biomedical Sciences  
955 Main St  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
RM 1220 (ALC)**

REGISTER FOR IN  
PERSON & VIRTUAL  
EVENT HERE:



PLEASE EMAIL [OUTPATIENTUB@GMAIL.COM](mailto:OUTPATIENTUB@GMAIL.COM) WITH ANY QUESTIONS / COMMENTS / CONCERNS

5:00	DINNER
5:15	WELCOMING REMARKS
5:20	PROGRAM SPEAKERS:
	<b>Dr. Middleton, EM resident</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creating gender affirming spaces in acute care</li><li>• Experience as a trans provider</li></ul>
	<b>Camille Hopkins, patient</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Experience as a trans patient</li><li>• Role of healthcare providers in trans activism</li></ul>
	<b>Dr. Abramowitz, urologist</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creating gender affirming spaces in &amp; outside of trans-specific healthcare</li><li>• Best practices and barriers to care</li></ul>
	<b>Dr. Bethin, pediatric endocrinologist</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unique challenges in caring for youth</li></ul>
6:40	Q&A PANEL
7:20	CLOSING REMARKS



***PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara Board of Directors***

*President- Julie Christiano*

*Secretary- Lisbeth Ball*

*Treasurer- David Barrett*

*Directors- Sharon Barrett and Jeanne Mullen*

**PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.**