

PFLAG

BUFFALO/NIAGARA

LEADING WITH LOVE



April Sharing Meeting

Sunday, April 16th

1:00 - 2:30

Currently, Sharing Meetings are held virtually via Zoom on the third Sunday of most months. You do not need an account to join. Leave contact information at 716-883-0384 24 hours or more before the meeting and we will get you the codes.

PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara

P.O. Box 617

Buffalo, New York 14207

Helpline (716) 883-0384 info@pflagbuffalo.org

www.pflagbuffalo.org www.facebook.com/pflag.niagara

We meet because we have learned someone very close to us has come out as LGBTQ+. We try to help one another deal with this information in a positive manner. Although we do not always agree, we try to be understanding. We offer help to those who seek it, but do not force ourselves on others. We strive to maintain anonymity while sharing on a level that is comfortable for us.

Celebrating 50 Years of PFLAG



Apply for Scholarships Today!

Visit www.pflagbuffalo.org

Each of 3 scholarships is \$500.00. Must be received before May. 1st.



NEW OPTIONS IN A VIRTUAL WORLD

The past three years have shown our country as a whole, and PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara in particular, to be resilient and able to adjust in ways previously unknown. One major adjustment PFLAG B/N made was holding Sharing Meetings virtually; though the advantages of in-person sharing and connecting were not possible, other advantages have come to light.

The logo for PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara is centered on a yellow rectangular background. The word "PFLAG" is written in a large, bold, dark teal font, with a small white heart symbol integrated into the letter 'A'. Below "PFLAG", the words "BUFFALO/NIAGARA" are written in a smaller, bold, dark teal font.

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Via Zoom, People can join from miles away, other counties, and farther. People can join at the last minute. Inclement weather does not preclude sharing.

Now that more people are gathering and getting together, PFLAG has been considering its options. At this time, sharing meetings are still virtual, but there are currently talks about a hybrid option where people can Zoom in to a meeting taking place in-person.

Boundaries have been removed. People in the Buffalo area can Zoom with other PFLAG groups and PFLAG "affinity groups" (Dads' group, parents of trans group, for example).

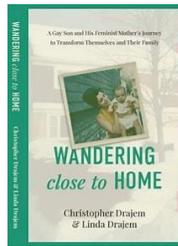
The Newark and New York City chapters are very large and offer affinity groups. Virtual options allow that to happen.

Some people may want to meet more than once a month, again, attending other chapters' virtual meetings allows that to happen. We welcome people to join us from out of the region and even out of state.

PFLAG B/N has been talking to PFLAG Rochester about such opportunities. The Rochester group meets the second Sunday of each month. We meet on the third Sunday of most months and are available for Rochester PFLAGers to join, and Rochester is for us.

Sharing attendees do find comfort in familiar faces and consistent meeting times. Meeting locally is always a powerful source of support. However, with what we have learned and experienced in these past few years, it is important to offer some of the new options that are now available through electronic means.

AN ENCORE VISIT



A book talk, sponsored by Buffalo/Niagara and PFLAG Rochester, is in the works. This will be a virtual gathering, and we look forward to sharing details soon. In case you missed the last time longtime PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara mom Linda Drajem and her son Christopher spoke with Buffalo/Niagara about their book, *Wandering Close to Home*, you have a second chance. If you attended, we think you will want to join again. There is a new section added to the book, one addressing these new and concerning times.

We are happy to have PFLAG Rochester as a co-sponsor of this event. We look forward to having more people to hear these fine authors talk about this powerful book. Stay tuned to Facebook and future newsletters for more information.

You can learn more about *Wandering Close to Home* and its authors by following or cutting and pasting this link:

[Amazon.com: Wandering Close to Home: A Gay Son and His Feminist Mother's Journey to Transform Themselves and Their Family eBook : Drajem, Linda, Drajem, Christopher: Kindle Store](#)

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