

LGBT CENTER OF RALEIGH

2013 ANNUAL REPORT



LGBT
center OF RALEIGH
THE TRIANGLE & BEYOND

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

What a year this community has had! While preparing for the Annual Report, we witnessed history: the Supreme Court's decision that the Defense of Marriage Act is UNCONSTITUTIONAL. While we as a community knew this as fact, it is now the law of the land. It has incredible implications for those living in states that recognize marriage equality, but it also opens the door for so much more.

The walls are coming down, stone by stone, but we must not forget that there is work yet to be done. Bullying is a very real threat to our youth, LGBT cultural competency in Senior Living facilities is horrible, HIV and STDs are still rampant in the South, housing and employment discrimination threaten to undermine the basic protections ALL PEOPLE should have.

At the LGBT Center of Raleigh, we want everyone to know the great things that are happening in our tiny Community Center. And while there is no way to sing the praises of all our wonderful volunteers and events, here are a few that capture the essence of our mission:

- Our Gay & Gray Initiative is officially a SAGE Affiliate! Now known as SAGE Raleigh, this program is gaining national attention for the incredible work they are doing
- This year's ASPYRE Youth Camp empowered young leaders from across the state in policy, legal, and moral issues in the LGBT community.
- The Youth Coffee Shop has consistently grown and this month, marched with the Center at Moral Monday; protesting education and health cuts.
- The LGBT Community Library at the Center is bursting at the seams with over 2500 books and DVDs that are available for check out.
- Finally, our volunteers donated over 6000 hours to our little Center... helping find people housing, health care, employment, and sometimes, just to lend a shoulder to cry on.



Last but not least, you may have heard some rumors about the Center moving, and I want to take the time to CONFIRM those rumors! By January 1st, 2014, we will be in our new home at 324 South Harrington Street; the old home of AAS-C in the Sperry Building. We want to thank our donors and our wonderful volunteers for the passion and hard work they put in every day. It is truly no wonder why our small Center is considered one of the best Centers in the country.

For Equality,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R."



“Hundreds of people showed up to learn about the Center and to dream about what we could accomplish.”

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

October 11, 2013 is National Coming Out Day and it represents a very significant milestone in the life of the LGBT Center of Raleigh. Five years ago on that day the LGBT Center was officially born. For many years prior to that day, countless people all around the Triangle had met and talked and brainstormed and imagined. What would a community center look like? How would it function? Where would we put it? How would we pay for it?

After many meetings and planning sessions a small committee was formed and was given the task of doing whatever was necessary to establish the LGBT Center of Raleigh as a 501c3 nonprofit organization. That committee worked tirelessly for an entire year. They created our logos. They established our bylaws. They elected our first Board of Directors. And they applied for our nonprofit status with the IRS. Finally, in October 2009, the Center was approved and the journey officially began. The milestone was celebrated with a free and open festival in Moore Square on a cold damp National Coming Out Day and the day was dubbed “Raleigh is Coming Out”.

Raleigh did come out that night. In spite of the weather, hundreds of people showed up to learn about the Center and to dream about what we could accomplish. There was excitement in the air that night as people realized that we really could build a community center to serve our region. People signed up for email updates and they donated money. They donated enough money that it became apparent very early that the Center would become a reality and would be successful.

Because of the generous and enthusiastic support of the entire community, the LGBT Center did become a success. It is truly amazing what has been accomplished in five short years. Now, with a full-time director and a busy and active physical space, the Center has become a beacon for our community. This is now where people gather to relax, to meet, to celebrate and to console. It is where the media comes for opinions on gay issues. It is a respected institution not only locally but state-wide and nationally. It is clearly the best LGBT Center of any city of this size.

We now boast one of the largest LGBT libraries in the southeast. We are the only institution in the southeast with a full time year-round gay artist exhibit. Our senior program has become an affiliate of the national SAGE program and is working diligently to improve lives for our aging population. Our summer youth leadership camp is growing and has become a statewide event. The transgender initiative continues to grow and to have a huge impact on the lives of so many people. The list just goes on and on.



Within the next year, the Center will move to a much larger space on Harrington Street. The programs and initiatives of the Center will fill the space quickly and there will be room for even more. The LGBT Center has truly come a long way since that Coming Out Day five years ago and the future is even more exciting. The entire Triangle community should be proud of what we have accomplished and none of it could have come without the generosity and support of so many people across the region.

Thank You,

R. Stummedes



“The generosity is amazing - from donations of books and DVDs to the numerous volunteer hours keeping the Center's doors open.”

SPOTLIGHT: LGBT CENTER'S COMMUNITY LIBRARY

As the LGBT Center of Raleigh's Library embarks upon our third year of operation, we continue to strengthen our outreach efforts to support the local LGBT community.

In 2013, the Library continued to thrive. Library card registration exceeded 400 patrons and the circulating collection expanded to approximately 2,500 volumes. Over \$1,000 was raised at the Out! Raleigh Book Sale to support the LGBT Center's programming budget. The Library also donated over 100 books to North Carolina Central University's new LGBT Community Center in Durham.

LIBRARY SUPPORT FOR CENTER INITIATIVES

One of the Library's top priorities is to provide support to the Center's vital outreach programs, including the Youth and Family Initiative, the Affirming Faith Forum, and the Transgender Initiative. Below are examples of how we have used our resources to advocate for these groups:

FAMILY STORY TIME

The Library's Family Story Time is a quarterly event that provides a unique social and networking opportunity for LGBT and allied households with children from infancy to first grade. This popular program features book readings, songs, and craft projects, bringing families to the Center from across the Triangle region. We continue to receive positive feedback from Triangle Families and Raleigh Area Gay Parents Meetup groups about this event.

MEET THE AUTHOR

The Center's Affirming Faith Forum partnered with the Library for two special Meet the Author events entitled "Conversations on Faith." These events featured local authors and LGBT faith leaders with recently published books and memoirs, including Rev. Jimmy Creech (author of Adam's Gift) and Justin Lee (founder of GayChristian.net).

GENDER NON-CONFORMING COMMUNITY

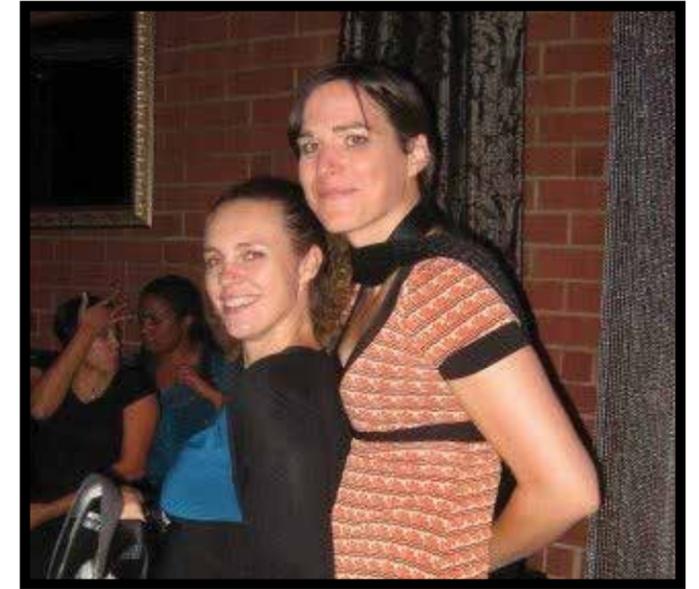
The Library also increased our collection of books and DVDs that affirm and address all identities on the gender spectrum. Members of the Center's popular Transgender Initiative browsed the library shelves and highly utilized these resources, many of which cannot be found at other libraries or bookstores. We are one of the few LGBT community libraries in the country in which gender-queer items are so visible within the collection- just look for the blue and green spine labels.

On behalf of the Center's Board of Directors, I wish to thank all members of our community for the continuing to contribute valuable and indispensable resources to the Library. The generosity is amazing - from donations of books and DVDs to the numerous volunteer hours keeping the Center's doors open. We have quickly flourished to become North Carolina's largest LGBT community library- supporting one of the most impressive LGBT Centers in the country!

Sincerely,
Erin Iannacchione
Board of Directors and LGBT Librarian



OUT IN THE COMMUNITY



Fiscal Year 2012

Income

Direct Public Grants	\$14,750
Monetary Contributions	\$82,364
Special Events Income	\$123,530
Total Income*	<u>\$220,644</u>

Expense

Contract Services	\$5,594
Facilities and Equipment Operations	\$22,614
Marketing	\$41,967
Payroll Expenses	\$6,099
Travel and Meetings	\$45,432
Special Events Expenses	\$4,738
Program Expense	\$62,766
Program Expense	\$18,745
Total Expense	<u>\$207,955</u>

Net Income \$12,689

**Endowed Restricted Funds \$132,575



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS & SUPPORTIVE ORGANIZATIONS



“The LGBT Center thanks everyone from the bottom of our hearts for all the support we have received this past year. We can't wait to see what the next will bring.”

DONATE & CONNECT

BECOME A MONTHLY SUSTAINER!

The Center and our programming are almost exclusively funded by the generous donations of our incredible community. One of the easiest and most effective ways to give is through an automatic monthly draft that you can set up online! Whether it is \$20, \$50 or even \$100 a month, every dollar of your donation goes toward creating and sustaining the many programs that strengthen our community. You can fill out a sustainer card online, at the Center, or at any one of our events. All donations are completely tax-deductible, too!

ENGAGE YOUR WORKPLACE!

Many of the organizations in the Triangle are incredibly generous when it comes to charitable giving. But did you know that organizations like GSK, IBM, CISCO and Bank of America (to name just a few) will actually MATCH your donation to the Center? That DOUBLES your contribution to the Center and it also builds bridges in our community to the for-profit world! We are also always on the lookout for new volunteer opportunities from larger organizations because it builds camaraderie!

"FRIEND-RAISE"

Friend-raising is a new buzzword, but everything is about networking these days, right? All we ask is that you tell your friends and family about us! Like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, chat us up in your workplace. You would be amazed how many people will engage in a positive conversation about us!

PLAN YOUR LEGACY

Including the LGBT Center of Raleigh in your estate plan creates a lasting legacy of support for our mission. There are numerous strategies for structuring a gift that suits your personal situation while meeting your charitable goals. From simple Bequests to more nuanced giving such as Charitable Remainder Trusts or Annuity Contracts, the Center can help coordinate your future giving plans! And while we do not provide legal or tax advice, we can put you in contact with professional advisors in the area.

SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTIONS



[/lgbtcenterofraleigh](https://www.facebook.com/lgbtcenterofraleigh)



[@lgbtcenterral](https://twitter.com/lgbtcenterral)



<http://linkd.in/15Cnuwg>



<http://4sq.com/keUmpDv>

[HTTP://WWW.LGBTCENTEROFRALEIGH.COM](http://www.lgbtcenterofraleigh.com)

DONATIONS

BY CHECK

LGBT Center of Raleigh
411 Hillsborough St.
Raleigh, NC 27603

ONLINE

<http://bit.ly/1dPYTXV>





FOR EQUALITY!