



About PFLAG Dayton

Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month
Social time -- 7:00 p.m.
Meeting and support -- 7:30 p.m.

Location: Cross Creek Community Church
667 Miamisburg-Centerville Rd.

Each meeting offers both a program and a support group. PFLAG maintains a policy of confidentiality. We strive to create a safe and welcoming environment for all who attend.

Calendar

(See page 2 for details of special events)

March

3 Jennifer Finney Boylan at WSU.

8 PFLAG Monthly Meeting. 7:00: Social Time. 7:30: Meeting and Support. Program: Officer Wendy Stiver, Dayton Police Dept.

11 National PFLAG Scholarship Deadline

16 Katie Miller, program by Lima PFLAG

19 Dayton Gay Men's Chorus Fundraiser, "Color My World." 6:00, Dayton Art Institute. More at <http://www.daytongaymenschorus.org>

April

9 PFLAG State Meeting in Akron.

12 PFLAG Monthly Meeting. 7:00: Social Time. 7:30: Meeting and Support. Program: Elaine Fultz, Magsig Middle School librarian, Centerville.

16 PFLAG Dayton Scholarship Deadline

May

10 PFLAG Monthly Meeting. 7:00: Social Time. 7:30: Meeting and Support. Program: Attorney David Morse with an update on legal issues. (Rescheduled from snowed out January)

18 Equality Ohio Lobby Day in Columbus.

June: PRIDE MONTH. Details later.

14 SAVE THE DATE! PFLAG Dayton Scholarship Banquet

Paragraphs from the Prez . . .

As PFLAG Dayton president, I frequently find myself thinking about what PFLAG is and also about what it should be in 2011. Many things remain the same; others have changed. The three prongs of the PFLAG mission continue to be **Support, Education, and Advocacy**, but they are not necessarily practiced the same ways they used to be.

Support -- Parents still learn they have an LGBT child (and it is "T" more often than in the past), and they walk tentatively into a PFLAG meeting wondering who we are and what we can offer them. They might not be in as much turmoil as previously, but there are still tears and questions -- they wonder what this reality will mean for them, their child and their family.

Education -- Education has more of a double focus than it used to. People still come to PFLAG meetings to learn what it means to be LGBT and about the associated issues, but they also come to arm themselves with information and techniques they can use in conversations with others. PFLAG parents and friends aren't hiding anymore; they want to engage, but they want to do it right.

Advocacy -- This used to be the most frustrating part of the PFLAG mission. We knew what changes we wanted for our LGBT loved ones, but we despaired that change would ever happen. Now there are positive developments in the news almost daily. Check out page 3 for examples. But change doesn't happen without our prodding, and negative things still occur. Page 3 has some of those too. We still need to write to newspapers and contact public officials. The good news is that now it actually works sometimes!

So what does this mean for your connection to PFLAG Dayton. It means you are still needed, but maybe in a different way than in the past. Your presence at meetings is still important. If you are totally comfortable with having a gay kid, you could be the person who talks with new parents whose sons and daughters come out as teens. Those of us whose children came out years ago in their 20's or 30's can't relate as well to the special circumstances faced by parents of teenagers. We need parents who have shared that experience.

We need Youth First advisors, help with our Safe Schools program, and people to staff tables or do presentations as part of our Speakers Bureau. As a result of the changing climate, more and more schools, organizations and businesses want to hear what PFLAG has to say.

Some day PFLAG won't be needed. Equality will be the law of the land, and our LGBT loved ones will grow safely to adulthood, marry and raise their children without anyone batting an eye. But we aren't there yet. There is work still to be done, and we need you to help us do it.

Nancy Tepfer, President
PFLAG Dayton



Interesting Opportunities Ahead

There are several interesting programs coming up in March and April offered by PFLAG Dayton, by other PFLAG chapters and by Wright State University. Topics include Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Rainbow Reading, law enforcement and transgender. Mark your calendars, and plan to attend the ones that spark your interest.

PFLAG Dayton Programs

March 8th Meeting

Throughout history, law enforcement has not always been understanding or protective of LGBT citizens. We learned this in the story of Stonewall, and the origin story of PFLAG includes inaction by police as founder Jeanne Manford watched the bashing of her gay son on TV news. There were always gay police officers, but a harsh internal climate required them to remain closeted.

Things are changing. On Tuesday, March 8th, lesbian police officer Wendy Stiver, from Dayton's 5th district, will speak at the PFLAG monthly meeting. She will tell about her efforts to make the police department more LGBT aware, both for gay officers within the department and as officers encountering LGBT citizens in their work with the public.

April 12th Meeting

Safe Schools is an important component of PFLAG Dayton, and there is usually one program annually to update what the Safe Schools Team is doing. The newest Safe Schools initiative is the Rainbow Reading Program. PFLAG places LGBT-positive books in school classrooms and libraries.

On Tuesday, April 12th, the PFLAG meeting speaker will be Elaine Fultz, director of the Instructional Materials Center (library) at Magsig Middle School in Centerville. Elaine has worked closely with Safe Schools chair Kim Peters in developing the Rainbow Reading Program. Elaine will talk about Rainbow Reading from her perspective as a middle school librarian.

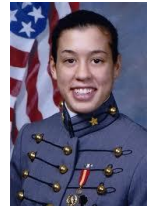
Well Known Transgender Author to be WSU Women's History Month Keynote

Jennifer Finney Boylan, author of *She's Not There: A Life in Two Genders*, will speak Thursday, March 3rd at 2:15 in the Wright State University Millett Hall Atrium. She will give the keynote address for WSU's Women's History Month events. There is no charge for this presentation.

Ms. Boylan is Director of Creative Writing at Colby College in Maine. In 2001, students chose her the Charles Walker Bassett Professor of the Year. Her book is considered to offer one of the best insights into what it means to be transgender.

Katie Miller at Lima PFLAG

There were many fascinating stories as the drama of Don't Ask, Don't Tell played out in the news. One of the most poignant was that of Katie Miller, a West Point Cadet who resigned from the historic school rather than lie about her sexual orientation. Katie, who is from Findlay OH, is now attending Yale University.



While home on a school break, Katie will share her experiences at an event sponsored by Lima PFLAG. She will speak in Lima on Wednesday, March 16th, at 7:30 in the OSU/Rhodes Campus Science Building, room 165.

PFLAG State Meeting

Hosted by the Akron chapter, PFLAG members from around the state will gather on Saturday, April 9, for the annual state meeting. The all-day gathering (9-4) will take place at the Fairlawn West United Church of Christ, 2095 West Market Street in Akron.

With the theme *Reaching for Equality*, the agenda will be filled with inspiring speakers and useful workshops. The keynote will be delivered by Rabbi David Horowitz, new national PFLAG president. Other presenters include Brooke Smith from PFLAG National; Ed Mullen, Executive Director of Equality Ohio; and Molly Merriman, Director of LGBT Studies, Kent State University.

All PFLAGers are welcome to attend. Thanks to donations from Akron businesses, the registration cost is only \$15.00. To register, go to pflagdayton.org/specialevents.html#state.



New Equality Ohio Director

Equality Ohio is pleased to introduce Ed Mullen as its new Executive Director. Ed is a civil rights attorney and longtime LGBT activist. In 2010, he worked on political campaigns critical to passing the civil union law in Illinois, and he lobbied on behalf of its passage. "I am thrilled to join Equality Ohio and lead its efforts to make Ohio truly a home for all of its LGBT citizens."



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Immediate Need: Youth First Advisors

Due to natural attrition, college schedules and unexpected relocation from the Dayton area, Youth First Greater Dayton (YF) is in need of additional advisors. YF is a PFLAG-sponsored support and social group for LGBTQ young adults (and their allies), ages 13- 21. YF offers an opportunity for growth, development, sharing, and discussion in a confidential environment.



YF meets each Wednesday evening at Christ Episcopal Church, 20 West 1st Street, Dayton. Meetings provide a mix of serious and fun activities, which may include discussion, movies, guest speakers or other educational

opportunities, playing electronic or board games, art projects, and food.

Advisors must be at least 26 years old; assistant advisors can be 22+. They may be LGBT or straight allies. On a rotating monthly schedule, advisors are “on duty” for Youth First meetings, always with at least one other advisor. Other duties include assisting with planning for meetings and purchasing supplies, food, etc. (expenses are reimbursed).

Advisors must respect the confidentiality of YF members’ attendance and discussions, and they must consider the safety and well-being of YF young people as their first priority.

For more information about becoming a Youth First advisor, email daytonpflag@yahoo.com.

Looking Ahead to **PRIDE**

Specific information about the many **PRIDE** events will appear in the May/June newsletter, but this is a heads up about one event -- the 2011 **PRIDE** parade on Saturday, June 4th.

This year’s theme is “*Thank You for Being a Friend*,” a tribute to straight allies. PFLAG is one of the oldest and biggest sources of straight allies, with parents, other relatives, friends and even those with no personal LGBT connection.

The Dayton Pride Partnership has invited PFLAG to march directly behind the grand marshal. With that honor in mind, let’s have a huge contingent this year. You do not have to be a PFLAG member; just join us and *thank you for being a friend*.

↑Ups & Downs in the News↓

↑ Justice Dept. Will Not Defend DOMA

President Obama directed the Department of Justice not to defend the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) in court because he has determined the law is unconstitutional. Until DOMA is repealed, it is still in force, but this is a significant decision.

↓ School Discrimination against Lesbian Couple Chosen Dance Royalty

Sarah Lindstrom and Desiree Shelton, a couple, were each chosen for the court of the Champlin Park High School (Minnesota) winter formal. The school refused to allow them to march together into an assembly even though two straight males on the court agreed to walk together as well. The original idea for the girls to walk together came from other students.

↑ Champlin HS Reverses Position

Following a mediation session with lawyers from the Southern Poverty Law Center, the school agreed that members of the court could walk with any significant person in their lives -- boyfriend/girlfriend/best friend/parent/etc. Sarah and Desiree walked together.

↓ Ugandan LGBT Activist Murdered

David Kato, gay man and outspoken advocate for LGBT civil rights in a country where being gay is a criminal offense, was beaten to death January 26th. The minister at his funeral preached an anti-gay sermon and villagers refused to bury him. His friends, mostly gay, stepped in and conducted the burial.

↑ New HUD Non-Discrimination Policy

The federal department of Housing and Urban Development has announced a new policy that will prohibit discrimination in housing programs on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. This will apply only to federally subsidized housing.

↑ The Battle for Rights in Ohio

Rep. Ross McGregor, Republican from Springfield, plans to renew a bipartisan effort to ban discrimination in employment and housing based on sexual orientation or gender identity. “I plan on taking a leadership role,” said McGregor.

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Owner

Someone you know and love is gay!

For support and information, contact the Dayton chapter of



Hotline: (937) 640-3333

www.pflagdayton.org/youthfirst.html
youthfirst2@pflagdayton.org

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PFLAG-Dayton is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and is not affiliated with any religious or political group.
All donations are tax-deductible.



**PFLAG Dayton 2011
Membership Application**



Name _____

Address _____

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Email _____

You will receive the PFLAG Dayton newsletter electronically. If you desire to have a paper version mailed to you, check this box

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All Donations are Tax Deductible

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