



PFLAG  
phoenix

Parents, Families and Friends <sup>And</sup> ~~of~~ Lesbians and Gays  
(and Bi'sexual, Transgender, and "Questioning" People)

## PFLAG Phoenix Newsletter

Events and information

August 2019

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### Greetings!

2015 turned out to be a historic & consequential year. The Supreme Court legalized marriage equality, the Pentagon added "sexual orientation" as a protected class under its Military Equal Opportunity Policy, in Florida, then Gov. Rick Scott signed a bill allowing same-sex couples to adopt children, following a 2010 court ruling that overturned the law preventing couples from this right, in New Jersey, a jury ruled that "gay conversion therapy," designed to turn LGBT people straight violates the state's consumer fraud act, and on and on.

Unfortunately, we CANNOT be complacent. We CANNOT sit back on our laurels. We CANNOT take these victories for granted any more. We MUST fight with all of our might to protect these victories because there is a very real possibility that many of these amazing victories could be reversed. We **must** keep our chins up & soldier on. It is all about changing hearts & minds and that is what PFLAG Phoenix is all about.

Wondering what else is going on in August? Check out our [calendar](#) on our [website](#). That is where you can find information about our support meetings and so much more.

And remember, we love our volunteers! If you'd like to know more about ways you can help our chapter, email us at [info@pflagphoenix.org](mailto:info@pflagphoenix.org).

Don't forget to "like" our [Facebook page](#) if you haven't yet!

Sincerely,

PFLAG Phoenix  
602.843.1404

## August support meetings



Friday	August 2	7:00pm-8:30pm	Tempe
	<a href="#">Check their website</a>		Native American
Thursday	August 8	7:00pm-8:30pm	Scottsdale/PV
Tuesday	August 20	7:00pm-8:30pm	Phoenix
Tuesday	August 20	7:00pm-8:30pm	Mesa

More information about our support meetings can be found [here](#).

## Rainbows Festival: Save these dates



The annual 2019 Rainbows Festival and Street Fair is a celebration of the diversity of the LGBTQ community. Each year, the Rainbows Festival draws a crowd of over 25,000. Rainbows Festival is the 2nd largest LGBTQ event in the state of Arizona, only 2nd to the Phoenix Pride Festival.

It is a free event and will be held Saturday & Sunday November 2nd & 3rd, 2019 at Heritage Square Park, from 10:00am - 6:00pm. More info can be found [here](#).

**DUET: A worthy non-profit we should all know about**

Duet was started in 1981 by The Reverend Dr. Dosa Carlson and Church of theBeatitudes in Phoenix. Duet is a non-profit, interfaith organization that promotes health and well-being through its vitally needed, free-of-charge services to homebound adults, family caregivers, faith communities, and grandfamilies.



[From an article in the May 29th issue of the AZ](#)

[Republic](#): "Many LGBTQ+ family caregivers may have issues separately from those discussed in a regular support group, and they may feel more confident speaking openly in an environment of fellow LGBTQ+ community members", said George Burson, caregiver services coordinator for Duet and facilitator for the new support group. "Community Church of Hope is a space created specifically with the LGBTQ+ community in mind, so support group attendees may feel more at home there."

The LGBTQ+ community is growing and aging, Community Church of Hope is committed to partnering with Duet in their work to support those who care for our aging population," said Patrick Stout, pastor at CCoH. "Our location and facility will provide an open, safe environment for the facilitators and caregivers to share and learn how to assist our loved ones."

According to the Family Caregiver Alliance, some issues that specifically impact older LGBTQ+ family caregivers are: how "chosen family" (versus your family of origin) responsibilities may impact caregiving, employer issues, finding supportive health-care and service providers, experiencing mistreatment or discrimination, maintaining a sense of community and maintaining their own well-being.

Many of these same issues are faced among all family caregivers, but may prove particularly challenging for LGBTQ+ caregivers.

[...]

More information about this very worthy non-profit can be found [here](#).

To become a volunteer with Duet, the first step is to attend an orientation. To register, call, (602) 274-5022 or visit [duetaz.org/volunteer](http://duetaz.org/volunteer).

## PFLAG Phoenix membership drive is around the corner

Just an early heads-up: Sept/Oct are our annual renewal months for



memberships. Would you please consider renewing your membership or joining PFLAG Phoenix for 2019-2020? And no worries, if you just joined or renewed in June, July, or August, your memberships are automatically covered for the 2019-2020 year.

Your membership helps us fulfill our mission of support, education, and advocacy for, and on behalf of LGBTQ individuals, their families, and friends (and straight allies too). There is nothing more rewarding than helping LGBTQ people and the family/friends

who surround them to accept & celebrate themselves just as they are. Everything we do is with dedicated volunteers, many of whom have been on this journey at some point in their life. Either they are LGBTQ or they are the parent, family, friend of someone who is. But we cannot do it all with just volunteers, which is why we need your financial support as well.

For more information about memberships and the different ways to purchase or renew, please visit our [website](#).

PFLAG Phoenix, 2942 N. 24th St., Suite 114-310, Phoenix, AZ 85016