

## PFLAG Phoenix Newsletter

#### **Events and information**

September/October 2020

In This Issue

It's Membership Time!
Virtual Support Meetings
Birthday wishes

**Quick Links** 

Support meeting information

Become a member

About our chapter

**Our Sponsors** 

**Our Calendar of Events** 

### **Greetings!**

This time last September we were starting to see the hot summer temperatures moderating, just as we are now. Life, one year ago, was carefree, but we didn't know it or appreciate it enough.

Who knew that 2020 would present a dangerous pandemic? Who knew that the Arizona weather would be the LEAST of what is on our minds this year? But if there are lessons to be learned, it is to appreciate what is going right in our lives, take care of those you love, take care of yourself, and be thankful for the good things you've previously taken for granted, no matter how mundane.

We don't know about you, but 2020 will go down in so many of our books as one of the most stressful, worrisome, scary, lonely, horrible (insert your adjective here) years we've ever experienced. NOW more than ever, we must tend to those who are just barely hanging on, mentally & physically.

This pandemic has forced us to isolate and avoid crowds. This is very difficult for those who were already feeling so isolated & lonely in our LGBTQ+ community. And to make things worse, PFLAG Phoenix was forced to cancel all inperson Support Meetings, but thankfully technology had an answer for that. We switched to Virtual Support Meetings on the Zoom platform. If you have not attended a virtual meeting yet and would like to attend, we have all the information you will need to attend a meeting from the safety of your home down below and on our website.

If you need to contact us, click **here**.

Don't forget to "like" our <u>Facebook page</u> if you haven't yet! And don't forget to check out our <u>Instagram page</u>.

Sincerely,

PFLAG Phoenix 602.843.1404

### It's Membership time!

Please join PFLAG Phoenix as an official member, or renew your existing membership for 2020-2021

## 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 2020–2021? And no worries, if you joined or renewed in June, July, or August, your memberships are automatically covered for the 2020-2021 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.

Please renew or join now to help us support our loved ones, educate families, and friends, and advocate to advance & PROTECT strides gained in the past.

If you are a current member of PFLAG Phoenix, your membership will expire on September 30th (unless you joined between July and now - that counts as a 2020/21 membership). We hope that you will renew your membership and continue supporting the Phoenix chapter.

You \*are not required\* to be a member to take advantage of our services, but we encourage and appreciate it.

Check <u>our website</u> to see the different options we have for memberships.

Thank you so much for your support!

# Mark your calendars!



Here are the September Virtual Support
Meeting Dates:
Tuesday, September 1st
Thursday, September 10th
Sunday, September 27th



Here are the October Virtual Support

Meeting Dates:

Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>

Please send your RSVP's to pflagconnectsphx@gmail.com.

Once you RSVP, you will receive a link to the virtual room.

You can check the dates for future meetings on our website's calendar.

Get more information here.

# And finally ...



We here at PFLAG Phoenix would be remiss if we did not recognize a certain special someone's birthday this month. And that person is Donna Ellis, who has been a volunteer for many years here at PFLAG Phoenix. She has given so much of herself to PFLAG Phoenix that we would be lost without her.

Happy Birthday Donna! We love you!

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