



INDY PFLAG NEWS

JULY 2011

PFLAG meets the 2nd Sunday of each month. The next meeting will be July 10 from 2 to 4 pm at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Room W125 (West Entrance 4), just west of Meridian on 86th St

July 10 meeting

Our meeting in July will be a sharing time.

We welcome lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender people, parents, family and friends at our meetings. We share our experiences and concerns in a completely confidential environment surrounded by supportive folks. Participants are encouraged to say what's on their mind or can simply listen to what others have to say. PFLAG is not a religious or political organization. We represent people of many backgrounds, political persuasions and faiths. Indy PFLAG has been meeting at St. Luke's, a welcoming church, for many years. Everyone is welcome.

Notes from Annette

Saturday, June 11th saw the Indianapolis PFLAG chapter assembled at Mass Avenue and 10th Street, waiting for the Indy Pride Parade to begin. This year, the parade was bigger than it had ever been and we were third to the last in line. We stood on our feet for what seemed like hours, but it was a great opportunity to chat and get to know each other better.

Finally the parade began! Besides our own Indy PFLAG group walking with our banner, Nancy and Dan Tepfer, from Dayton PFLAG, walked with us, carrying their own Dayton PFLAG banner. We certainly were a big contingent this year!

Not only was the parade bigger this year, but it seemed there were more people on the sidewalks on the parade route. When the crowd saw the PFLAG banners, they yelled and cheered! It's always exciting when we hear the spectators tell us how much they love PFLAG!

The rest of the day was spent at our PFLAG booth. Thanks to Allan Gross, Steve Freeman, Colleen Freeman, Marcia & Steve Neff, Mark Cox and Lydia Banton for working at our booth. If the purpose of PFLAG is to offer support and education, I know we did our job. We sold buttons and bumper stickers and gave out lots of PFLAG information. At various times during the day, 4 people came to our booth to thank PFLAG for the help we had given them in the past. A few young people also came by to ask for our advice about how to come out to their parents. It was a very productive and rewarding day.

Getting ready for Pride is a lot of work, but it's well worth it. We had some PFLAG members march with us for the first time. I think they really enjoyed the experience. I hope next year more members choose to join us in the parade. As more people embrace equality, Pride will be an even bigger event and we will have the opportunity to make a bigger impact on the community.

BIG NEWSLETTER CHANGES!

Beginning with this month's newsletter, Indy PFLAG is changing to a QUARTERLY newsletter distribution: *January, April, July and October.*

Newsletters will be sent via email to our distribution list and posted on our website www.indypflag.org.

Meeting and program information will be sent out monthly via email and also posted on our website.

This change was discussed at our recent board meeting as a way to cut our expenses, streamline a very layered process and save wear and tear on your faithful (since 1998) newsletter editor. We hope you'll find it a good change and that it will give more people an opportunity to check in regularly at our wonderful website and take advantage of its wealth of information and resources.

The Indy PFLAG Newsletter requires Adobe's *Acrobat Reader*. This program is probably already installed on your computer. If you determine that it isn't, Adobe *Reader* may be downloaded for **free** from Adobe's website <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>

NOTE: Our address has changed.

Please update your address book to

Indy PFLAG
P.O. Box 1171
Carmel, IN 46082

Indy PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) is a group of people who share common experiences and provide support for each other. We listen and love. We help families have open, positive and loving relationships with GLBT children and we work for their civil and human rights.

Indy PFLAG Scholarship – Apply Now!

The Indianapolis PFLAG Chapter is pleased to be able to offer at least one \$500 scholarship for the upcoming academic year. These scholarships are available to any student who has been accepted to an accredited institution of higher education or to a vocational institution. The application deadline is **July 15**. The award will be paid to the recipient by September 1, after receipt of proof of enrollment.

In order to be eligible for these funds, you must meet the following requirements:

- Be a resident of Indiana
- Be a graduating high school senior or hold a high school diploma or a GED
- Self identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender
- Demonstrate an interest in service to the LGBT community
- Have been accepted to an accredited institution of higher education or to a vocational institution.

You must provide the following documents:

- Completed scholarship application form
- Two letters of recommendation
- An essay (no more than 2 pages) discussing either your life as an LGBT student or how you have been involved in the LGBT community

Please send your completed application packet to the following address **postmarked no later than July 15**:

*Indianapolis PFLAG Scholarship
P. O. Box 1171
Carmel, IN 46082*

All candidates will be notified of the outcome of their applications by August 15. You can find applications and recommendation forms online at

<http://indyflag.org/Scholarship/Scholarship.htm>

If you have any questions, e-mail info@indyflag.org.

Purple Hat Project

The Purple Hat Project has invited our Indy PFLAG chapter to a group photo shoot on **July 23rd at Broad Ripple Hair Design** at 5420 North College Avenue. We're scheduled to be there at 5:30 p.m. **Please wear a purple shirt.** This is for the Purple Hat Project which seeks to create awareness about the Marriage Discrimination Amendment. For more information about the Purple Hat Project, go to

www.purplehatproject.org.

Then in August, Danelle Osborne from the Purple Hat Project is going to come to our meeting when it's over (around 4:00) to videotape anyone who wants to talk about love, acceptance, their kids, etc. for their project. We hope to have lots of Indy PFLAG input!

Fort Wayne Pride

July 22nd - 23rd – Downtown Fort Wayne IN

Fort Wayne Pride 2011 will be held July 22-23 at Headwater's Park East and West in downtown Fort Wayne, IN. Friday's hours are 7pm-midnight and include Pride Idol, Good Night Gracie, beer tent, food, and vendors. Saturday's hours are noon-midnight and include vendors, live entertainment throughout the day, food, beer tent, KidSpace, workshops, volleyball tournament, cornhole tournament, and more. The cost for Friday is \$3 and Saturday \$5. 12 & under are free. The entire event is open to all ages.

<http://www.fwpride.org/>

2011 Indiana Black Pride Festival

“Don't Judge Each Other, Love Each Other”

*Sat. August 13 - Oscar Robertson Park - Indianapolis
12 noon – 7pm*

<http://www.indianablackpride.org/>

OUTFEST '11

Tippecanoe County Pride Celebration

Sat. August 20 – 4pm to midnight – Lafayette IN
Pride Lafayette, Inc., in conjunction with Citizens for Civil Rights, Lafayette's chapter of PFLAG, and other local community organizations, are gearing up for Outfest '11: Tippecanoe County Pride Celebration!

<http://pridelafayette.org/OUTfest11/>

From PFLAG Policy Matters

[Illinois Begins Issuing Civil Union Licenses](#). Same-sex couples in Illinois celebrated on June 1st, lining up before sunrise to obtain newly-issued civil union licenses. This is the result of a law signed by Illinois Governor Pat Quinn in January, which grants same-sex partners who wish to enter a civil union many of the rights afforded to straight married couples, such as “the power to decide medical treatment for an ailing partner and the right to inherit a partner’s property.” One of the champions of this law, Illinois Rep. Greg Harris, was honored on June 2nd at a Chicago PFLAG National event.

[Catholic Adoption Agency Says They Will Refuse Services to Same-Sex Couples](#)

With the state of Illinois allowing same-sex partners to obtain civil unions as of June 1st, adoption agencies cannot refuse to serve same-sex couples who have a civil union. However, Catholic Charities’ adoption agency, which has traditionally referred same-sex couples to secular agencies, has threatened to refuse services to same-sex couples. While Catholic Charities is hoping for an amendment that will allow religious agencies to continue discriminating against same-sex couples, the state of Illinois has asserted that if Catholic Charities continues this discrimination, they will no longer give state funding to their organization. Currently, Catholic Charities receives over \$30 million a year from the state of Illinois.

To talk with a parent who also has a gay son or lesbian daughter & to learn more about Indy PFLAG, please contact:

***Annette (317) 872-1385**

Indianapolis PFLAG

***Charlene/Oran (317) 897-0126**

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info@indyflag.org

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