



Volume 1|Issue 3
August 2021

PFLAG Riverview Newsletter

Our Mission

Our mission is to build on a foundation of loving families united with LGBTQ+ people and allies who support one another, and to educate ourselves and our communities to speak up as advocates until all hearts and minds respect, value and affirm LGBTQ people.

President's Corner

Hello PFLAG Riverview Family!

I have heard it said and I believe it to be true that "You will be the same person as you are today 5 years from now except for the people you meet and the books you read." As most of you know, it was 5 years ago this year when our daughter came out as gay at 13 years old. Our family was devoted to our evangelical church community with a firm set of doctrines and beliefs none of which would affirm being gay as a part of who she was created to be. We set off on a journey to educate ourselves with research on all things LGBTQ+. We also began to reconcile our faith which meant losing a lot of our religion and the relationships we once held near and dear. It was a painful season, but I have learned that many times an open mind comes through a broken heart. Back then I realized I really didn't even know any LGBTQ people (besides my daughter and a couple of her friends), so I set out to meet some by attending PFLAG Tampa meetings and volunteering at Metro Inclusive Health. I also created a safe space for myself and my family with other people on the same journey towards full affirmation which were the seeds that planted our PFLAG Riverview Chapter. Though I still have a lot to learn, here I am a changed woman through listening to the stories of the LGBTQ+ and their loved ones I have met along the way and educating myself through reading or listening to books and teachings outside of the box I once lived in.

I say this to encourage you to share your stories & seek out opportunities to hear people's stories. Also, take time to read books or listen to books or podcasts. We have a new Lending Library at your disposal at our monthly in person meetings and PFLAG National offers valuable resources and teachings.

I am always looking for people to share their stories!! I have learned so much from so many of you and everyone has a story to share. Please, consider sharing your story at one of our in-person support meetings or on our monthly zoom call. Let me know if you are interested or if you can be talked into it and just need a little nudge! PFLAG National recently had a course on sharing your story in 2 minutes.

Here is the link:

<https://pflag.org/pflag-academy-demand/change-world-two-minutes-how-share-your-story>

Take Care & Lots of Love!!
Faith

Welcome New Members

Thank you to the families that joined our chapter in July.

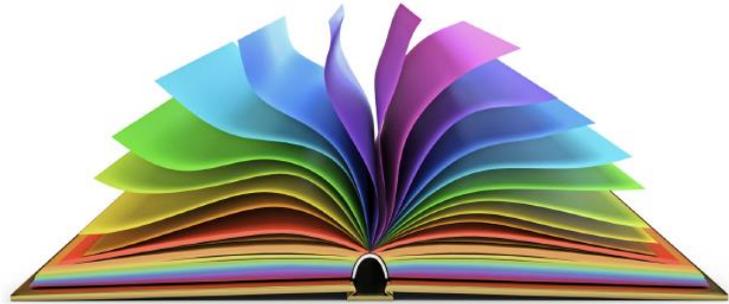
Waechter Family

Hi! I'm Kimmi and I identify as queer or lesbian. I'm married to my wonderful wife Jackie. We've been together for 5.5 years and have been living in Tampa for the past 2. I came to PFLAG because I've always valued advocacy, education, and a sense of community - and I'm bringing Jackie along for the ride!



Lending Library

We are looking for LGBTQ+ educational books donated to our chapter for people to be able to check out at our monthly in person meeting. If you would like to donate any books to the chapter, please bring it to the next in person meeting.



Upcoming Events

August 4 3:30-5:30pm: Creative Junk for LGBTQ+ Tweens and Teens



Drop off your teen or tween 3:30pm-5:30pm for an open craft time. No charge for snacks and crafting with materials provided. Craft kits with instructions available for purchase if a child prefers more guidance. (\$7-\$20 per kit) ONLY 12 SEATS AVAILABLE. Reserve a seat by emailing Pflagriverviewfamily@gmail.com with Creative Junk Therapy in the subject line. Please include parent's name, preferred pronouns & phone number, child's name, age and preferred pronouns

August 4th 7pm: Monthly Zoom Support Meeting: Our very own Kimmi, will share her story

August 24th 7pm: In Person Support Meeting at The Regent

****** Due to the covid numbers going up we are going to recommend wearing masks at our in person gatherings to do what we can do to create a safe space for all. ******

September 7th 7pm: Drag Queen Bingo (PFLAG Fundraiser) at Show Bar



Future Events

September 18th : Pride on the River

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

October 21st 7pm: Painting Party Pinot's Palette at The Regent

November 30th: In Person Support Meeting and Holiday Party at The Regent

From time to time, we have special guests share on both zoon and in-person support meetings. Please feel free to email Faith at Pflagriverviewfamily@gmail.com to offer your suggestions for future topics of discussion.

Back To School



Best wishes for a safe, healthy, and hopeful back to school season to our teachers, parents and students!

Please Follow Us on Social Media



PFLAG RIVERVIEW



@pflagriverview

You can find additional resources on our webpage
<http://www.pflagriverview.org/>

