



Happy Holidays From your Center Family!

Dear Friend of The LGBTQ Center,

As we get closer to the holiday season, I cannot help but think about those who have nowhere to go. I think about the people walking through our doors who are without a home, without a family or support network, and those who should feel safe at home, but unfortunately experience violence and abuse from those who are supposed to love and protect them. I think about what we can do as a community to make a difference in someone's life. ***I am counting on you to join me in supporting those in our community who have nowhere else to turn.***



Flying high above The Center

Here at The Center we make it our mission to engage, empower, and advocate for our community. ***We ensure that everyone walking through our doors receives support, affirmation, and acceptance for who they are so that they have the opportunity to thrive here in Long Beach.***

From the youth kicked out of their home because they are transgender, to the LGBTQ senior citizen coming to us in search of support after the death of her longtime partner, to the young man unable to find medical care because he has HIV, to a victim of domestic violence desperately searching for a way to leave an abusive relationship, ***The Center is the only community resource in Long Beach serving the comprehensive health, wellness, and social needs of LGBTQ people and communities.***



2015 Transgender Day of Remembrance Vigil

Over the last year we have prioritized adding additional support and services to meet the needs of those most vulnerable and isolated in our community.

- **Domestic Violence Services:** We have partnered with Interval House, one of the most respected domestic violence agencies in the country, to create a domestic violence prevention and support program designed specifically to meet the needs of LGBTQ people.
- **Additional Mental Health Support:** Our mental health services have doubled our number of therapists to ensure no one has to wait to receive mental health counseling.

- **Testing and Treatment for Sexually Transmitted Infections:** The Center is the only LGBTQ-specific organization in Long Beach providing free testing and treatment to uninsured people in Long Beach.



Mobile STI Testing Unit

- **Increased Programming in Youth Services:** We know that our youth are our future so we have added additional educational and life-skills workshops and created additional support programming for college age young adults to help prepare them for careers and higher education, make healthy life decisions, and create support networks to ensure their future success.
- **Public Programming for Senior Citizens:** It is vital that our community understand both our past and our future. We provide one-of-a-kind intergenerational public programming, designed by our volunteer Senior Services Committee, to provide educational and social opportunities for people of all ages to learn about LGBTQ histories, identities, commonalities, and differences.



Enjoying the Thanksgiving Senior Potluck

We continue to help an ever-increasing number of people walking through our doors, but we can't do it alone. ***We need your support to continue***

servicing the thousands of people relying on all of us to help them in their time of need. Please make a commitment to your community today with a **one-time or monthly gift** in any amount to your LGBTQ Center. Your support is essential to supporting our shared community in accessing services that would otherwise be out of reach. ***You're not just supporting your Center, you are saving lives.***

Your gift in any amount is easy to give. Simply follow the link below or **Click Here** to partner with The Center today.

You can make a difference today. It is my hope this holiday season that you will join us in serving everyone who is counting on us to help them in their time of need.

Yours In Partnership,



Porter Gilberg

Porter Gilberg
Executive Director

DONATE

PS I hope to see you at our 3rd annual Black & White Ball on Saturday March 12, 2016. This will be a truly unforgettable night of elegance, glamour, and celebration in our community. For tickets and more information visit **www.centerlb.org/gala**.

PPS I hope you like our new staff photo. We're serving you our best "Happy Holidays" pose!

