

# Bellevue/Eastside PFLAG Chapter Annual Report Oct. 1, 2017 - September 30, 2018

#### **PFLAG Mission**

PFLAG has a threefold mission: to provide support for families, allies and people who are LGBTQ; to educate the public about our community; and to advocate for equal rights and justice. This past year our PFLAG chapter members worked together and individually to further these goals.

# **Chapter Information**

# 2017-2018 Bellevue Chapter Board of Directors

Chris Topping: Chair Beth Lenholt: Treasurer Lisa Wheeler: Secretary Ginger Chien: Director Harry Dixon: Director

Lynne Haudenschield: Director

Kathy Riley: Director Daphne Steck: Director

Cynthia Gyger: Librarian and Event Coordinator

Board meetings were held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at the Bellevue, Redmond, and Kirkland regional libraries and were open to the public. Our current membership is 51 people. We awarded \$5,000 in college scholarships to two Eastside youths (\$2,500 each) and closed our fiscal year with \$7425.63 in our account.

## **2017-2018 Activities**

Meetings for the year: October Lee Callahan;
November-Jolynn Kenney; Big Brothers/Big Sisters;
December LGBTQ Trivia Game; January Judi O'Kelly;
National LGBT Bar Association; February Stephanie
Zero and Rainbow Teen Advisory Board; March
Superintendent Ivan Duran and Executive Director
of Student Services Judy Buckmaster of the Bellevue
School District Student; April Officer Molly
McCormack, Bellevue Police Department Safe Space
Program; May Kevin Toovey, Seattle Pride; June Eric
Lane Barnes and Diverse Harmony; July Dr. Kevin
Wang, Swedish Medicine; August LGBTQ employee
groups panel; September – Faith Communities panel

PFLAG Bellevue/Eastside at Redmond Derby Days for the win! We were given the Mayor's Choice award for our parade contingent.



#### **Support and Education:**

- Spoke to educational institutions, including two classes at Lake Washington Technical College and an all-day event at Madison middle school.
- Participated in three panels on gender and sexuality for the "Our Whole Lives" (OWL) sexual education programs for youth, held at Northshore and Northlake Unitarian churches.
- 3. Met with the Executive Director of Student Services and the Superintendent of Bellevue School district to discuss safe schools.
- 4. Addressed attendees at first Pride Service held at East Shore Unitarian church.

- 5. Spoke and held information table at Department of Defense Wingman event in Bellevue.
- 6. Tabled Seattle Men's Chorus event.
- 7. Tabled at Women's March Day of Action.
- 8. Awarded college scholarships to two Eastside high school seniors.
- Attended PFLAG National Conference and WA State Council meetings.
- 10. Tabled first annual Bellevue College Pride Event.

The story of PFLAG began with a mother's love for her son — and we continue that legacy on our journey to equality.



Photo courtesy Jennifer Davies

## **Advocacy and Outreach**

- Read statements to the Bellevue City Council on the importance of acknowledging LGBTQ Pride, resulting in the city's first Proclamation for Pride Month. Also purchased rainbow flag for city of Bellevue, which was hung at City Hall after a public ceremony.
- 2. Held table at Symetra Non profit fair.
- 3. Marched in Seattle Pride Parade with other local PFLAG groups.

- 4. Marched in Duvall Days parade for the fifth year, along with Cedarcrest GSA youth and their advisor.
- 5. Marched for third time in Redmond Derby Days and was awarded "Mayor's Choice".
- 6. Marched for second time in Celebrate Woodinville, and for third time in Renton River Days.
- 7. Marched with Foster Interfaith Relations on the Eastside (F.I.R.E) contingency for Kirkland 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade
- 8. Walked at TransPride and held table at post event. Also participated in Trans Day of Remembrance.
- 9. Attended Lobby Day in Olympia and spoke to elected officials about key LGBTQ legislation.
- 10. Held booth at Salmon Days festival in Issaguah for entire two-day event.
- 11. Helped members of the Bothell community create PFLAG Bothell/Northshore, a satellite of our chapter.

For the first time, the city of Bellevue waves a rainbow flag at city hall for Pride Month—PFLAG Bellevue/Eastside was part of that change.



Thanks to Bellevue First United Methodist Church for graciously providing space for our monthly meetings!