

PHILADELPHIA FAMILY PRIDE



2020 ANNUAL REPORT



TABLE OF CONTENTS

3 ... Director's Statement

4 ... Black Lives Matter

5 ... Philly Queer March for Black Lives

6 ... In-Person Events

7 ... Virtual Events

8 ... Drag Queen Story Times

9 ... Building Community Via Zoom

10 ... Parent Workshops

11 ... Paths to Parenthood Classes

12 ... Conference @ Home

14 ... *Fulton v. City of Philadelphia*

15 ... Board of Directors

16 ... 2020 Income

17 ... 2020 Expenses

18 ... A Look Ahead



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

What a year. 2020 was like no other in recent history – a global pandemic presented monumental challenges. Those challenges are multiple and layered – the challenge to our physical health and safety being the big one, but also the challenge of continuing to work and keep our families housed and fed. Then there are the challenges to our mental health and working out how to lean on each other during a time when we're supposed to keep apart – but need other people more than ever.

The pandemic also revealed many other injustices that were already there. Witnessing the death of George Floyd at the hands of police led to another reckoning of racial justice; seeing up close the disparities of which communities are most impacted by COVID-19; watching the country debate LGBTQ+ rights as part of an historic presidential election to name a few.

As we reflect back on the past year, PFP is proud to have done what we could to continue to build community for LGBTQ+ families online, provide educational workshops for parents, and continue our annual conference addressing important questions that 2020 presented.

We continue to be here for LGBTQ+-led families.

In solidarity,



STEPHANIE C. HAYNES

Executive Director

Pictured left with her wife, Vicky.

Photo by Kelly Burkhardt



BLACK LIVES MATTER

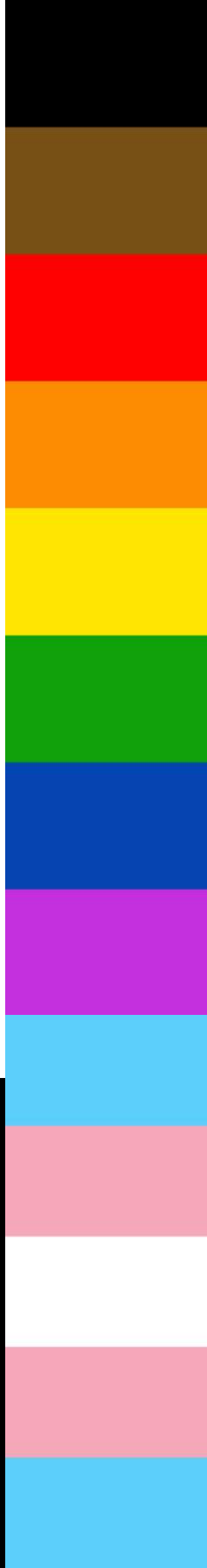
The board and leadership of Philadelphia Family Pride reiterates, emphatically, that **Black Lives Matter**. We (re)affirm that the on-going, systematic, state-sanctioned violence against Black people by this country is a crime that cannot continue and that an end to white supremacy is long, long overdue.

As an organization dedicated to LGBTQ+ families, we feel called to remind our community that the history of LGBTQ+ rights is filled with “violent” protests, property destruction, riots, and many other responses to the unjust oppression of a people. This is not the time to worry about methods. It has been 520 years since the first African people were kidnapped and enslaved in the Americas. 520 years of state-sanctioned genocide in one form or another, from enslavement to the prison industrial complex. The Boston Tea party was a property destroying protest; the Boston Massacre started with rocks thrown at soldiers. We celebrate those riots as acts of patriotism and bravery – and they were just fighting about taxes and voting rights. How can any reaction to 520 years of violence be seen as anything but justified?

To those in our community who may say that racism is not the work of an LGBTQ+ organization, we remind you that we are a vibrant multi-racial community. And that, sadly, our community is not immune to racism and white supremacy. Much of the work for LGBTQ+ liberation has been (and continues to be) led by people of color, only for those people and their critical work to be erased. If we as an LGBTQ+ community do not stand against racism, we abandon ourselves, our families, our history, and our community.

**BLACK
LIVES
MATTER**

**BLACK
TRANS LIVES
MATTER**



PHILLY QUEER MARCH FOR BLACK LIVES

PFP co-sponsored the Philly Queer March for Black Lives that took place on Sunday, June 21, 2020. The march started at Love Park and followed the Ben Franklin Parkway to the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

This event connected members of local Black and LGBTQ+ communities and their allies to march in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement. The intersection of Black and LGBTQ+ communities was centered and celebrated, recommitting to the fundamental principles guiding the first "Pride" and the Stonewall Riots of 1969.

Speakers shared personal perspectives and emphasized the importance of equality and visibility for all, specifically highlighting our Black and Brown siblings.

Pictured below far right is Tariem Burroughs, PFP board chair, and second from right, Greg Yorgey-Girdy, PFP's treasurer. Tariem and Greg were two of the organizers of the march.



Photo by Kelly Burkhardt

IN-PERSON EVENTS

PFP was able to hold nine events in person in early 2020 before COVID-19 hit the U.S.

We gathered on Jan. 4th for our Winter Wonderland Brunch at the Waldorf School in the Germantown neighborhood of Philadelphia to kick off the year, have some fun, eat a delicious brunch buffet, and hold our annual meeting. There we elected our new board of directors for 2020 and raised money through a silent auction.

Other in-person social events included a trip to the Adventure Aquarium in Camden, NJ, a bookstore meetup, a ski trip to Spring Mountain, and a potluck at the home of PFP Vice Chair Jadzia Axelrod, pictured below. We were also able to hold an intergenerational Valentine's Day party at the John C. Anderson Apartments. (See cover photo.)

Educational offerings that were held in person in early 2020 included a foster parent recruitment event at the William Way Center, a meeting of the resource parent support group, and participation in the annual Creating Change conference.

Finally, we were thrilled to be the fundraising beneficiary of the Tweetheart social at NEST Center City and enjoyed attending that event with NEST staff and families.



PFP Potluck, West Philly March 1, 2020

VIRTUAL EVENTS

It became apparent pretty quickly in March 2020 as things closed down that our families needed the PFP community more than ever for support while we all figured out the "new normal."

Schools were closed and the transition to at-home virtual school began. Parents continued to work when they could - either from home or out in the world as essential workers. Family expansion plans were put on hold, at least for a few months, and we all scrambled to find the necessities to keep life going at home.

Once it became clear that in-person events were no longer possible or safe, we switched gears, got a Zoom account, and started putting together a wide range of online offerings for our families. The following pages detail those events.

"PFP's family game night was the most fun I had on Zoom all year!"
- Zach S.



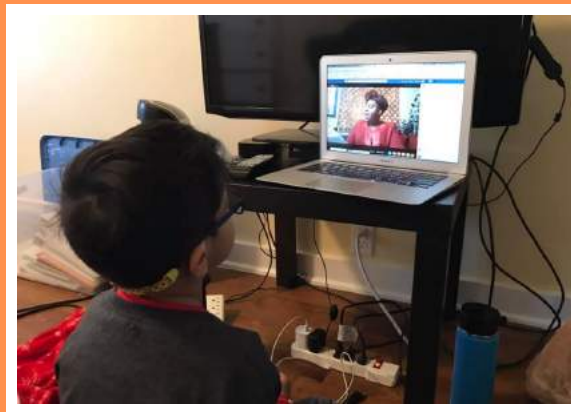
DRAG QUEEN STORY TIMES

One of the main ways we continued to serve PFP families was by hosting a series of 10 virtual drag queen story times throughout 2020. We also wanted to continue to support the performers who have done so much for our community in the past.

Many thanks to these performers for stepping up and providing some much needed entertainment during 2020.

Stories were read over Facebook Live on Friday mornings. Performers included Icon Ebony Fierce (lower left), Brittany Lynn (upper left) and a special sing-a-long and story time with Martha Graham Cracker (upper right).

"This is necessary medicine."
– Portia S., Facebook Live comment



BUILDING COMMUNITY VIA ZOOM

In addition to the Drag Queen Story Times, PFP also worked to bring parents together via Zoom to share laughter and tears throughout 2020.

Parents gathered for regular game nights, hosted by PFP board member Gina Cline (pictured below, upper right), virtual karaoke nights, intergenerational meetups, and book readings by children's book authors. As Zoom fatigue set in, we hosted the events less regularly, but the smiles on people's faces when finding community were the same.

Author events included a book reading and Q&A with children's book author and illustrator Rashad Davis and a book release party for Christian Lovehall's new book "My Name is Troy" about a young Black Trans boy who is proud of who he is and protected and loved by his family.



PARENT WORKSHOPS

The needs of parents extended beyond game time and informal chats, however. PFP stepped up to provide an ongoing series of workshops via Zoom throughout 2020. Many of these events were recorded and can be found archived on our organization's [Facebook page](#).

Topics covered in these workshops included:

- Stress Reduction Advice for Parents
- Ask a Therapist
- Estate Planning 101
- Ask a Parenting Coach
- Smoking, Vaping and the LGBTQ+ Community
- Financial Planning and Success for LGBTQ+ Communities
- Barriers to Healthcare for LGBT Families and Family Planning
- Navigating the Childcare System for LGBTQ+ led Families
- Talking About Tobacco: The Importance of Family Conversations

For the "ask a therapist" workshops, we had people submit questions anonymously in advance and then asked a therapist the questions. The discussions ranged from "how do I keep my sanity right now" to "what can I do to keep my children's mental health intact" to "getting a good night's sleep."

Thanks to our board members who participated in these sessions as moderators and to the professionals who donated their time to help LGBTQ+-led families.



PFP Board member Lori Keslowitz (left) moderating an "Ask a Therapist" session with local therapist and PFP parent Dr. Robin Hornstein.

May 27, 2020

PATHS TO PARENTHOOD

Providing educational classes for LGBTQ+ prospective parents is one of Philly Family Pride's core missions. In the past, we have used a cohort-based model where the same group of prospective parents would explore the paths to parenthood together over six or eight weeks, led by a trained facilitator.

During COVID, we decided to hold stand alone sessions that we could record so that the information would be available in an asynchronous format. Key to pulling off these classes during the pandemic was our Bridging the Gaps intern, Taylor Goldberg (pictured below, upper left). Taylor set up and ran six classes on the following topics:

- Building Your Family with Donor Sperm
- Legal Considerations for Building Your LGBTQ+ Family
- Adoption Options for LGBTQ+ Families
- Prenatal Care and Birth for the LGBTQ+ Community
- Building Your LGBTQ+-led Family Using Surrogacy
- LGBTQ+ Foster Parent Recruitment



Adoption Options for LGBTQ+ Families

July 8, 2020

CONFERENCE @ HOME

Our largest educational event of the year, our annual conference, was held virtually on Saturday, October 10, 2020 from 9:30am-4:00pm. We also premiered our first stand-alone [conference website](#) in 2020. Many thanks to everyone who attended, presented, sponsored, and volunteered to make this first online PFP conference a success.

The theme of this year's event was "Our Community: The Power of Many Voices." Programming for adults included an opening keynote conversation entitled "Resistance is Not a Spectator Sport: Racial Reckoning in LGBTQ+ Life and Community" moderated by 2018 PFP keynote speaker Naomi Washington-Leapheart. A screen grab of the keynote conversation is pictured below. A recording of the talk can be found [here](#) online.

We offered six workshops on topics relevant to the times we're living in and seven community connection groups. The "Talking to Kids About Race and Racism" session was particularly popular and powerful.

"Really enlightening and powerful!"
– Mark M.



CONFERENCE @ HOME, CONT.

Although child care was not possible this year with a virtual event, we were happy to put together some fun offline activities and a live Drag Queen Story Time with Miss Brittany Lynn for kids 7 and under. For our kids 8-14 years old and older, we teamed up again this year with COLAGE to provide two hours of excellent programming.

The conference's closing plenary was a discussion of "What's at Stake This Fall for LGBTQ+ led families?" and included an update on the *Fulton v. City of Philadelphia* case headed to the Supreme Court (see p. 14) and what's at stake at the federal and state levels for our families.

Speakers included state Rep. Malcolm Kenyatta, attorney Leslie Cooper from the ACLU, and Julie Kruse from Family Equality. Watch the video of this session on our [Facebook page here](#). Screen grab from the session pictured below.

Special thanks to our record number 48 conference sponsors who made this event possible. We hope to welcome folks back to an in-person event in late 2021.



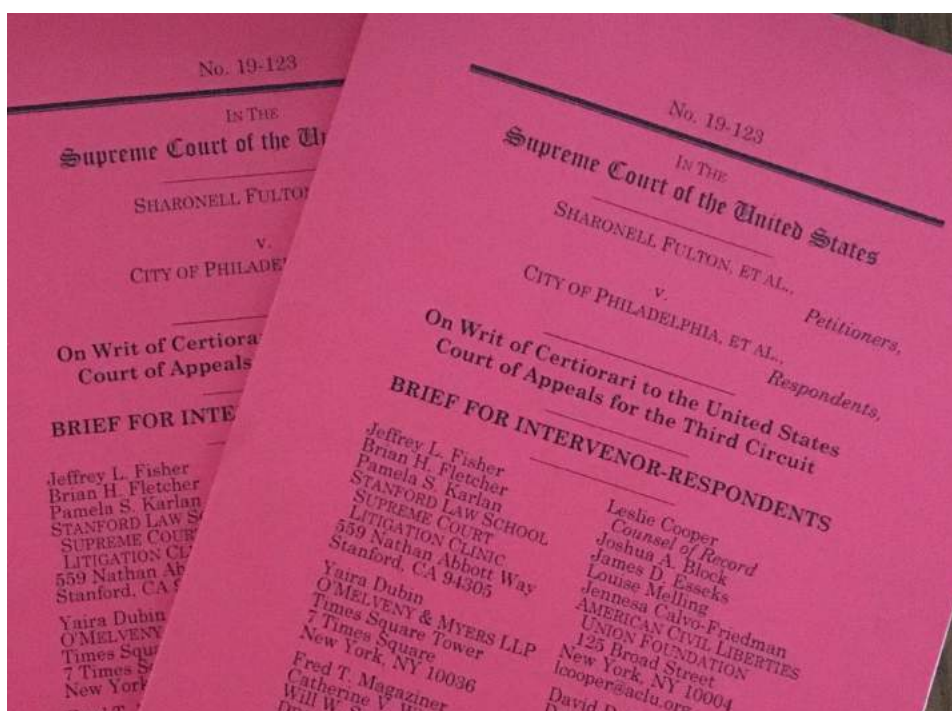
FULTON V. CITY OF PHILA

Philadelphia Family Pride is proud to be an intervenor in the case *Fulton v. City of Philadelphia* which was argued in front of the United States Supreme Court on November 4, 2020. The expectation is that a ruling will be issued some time in 2021.

The case, briefly, deals with whether Catholic Social Services (CSS) is obligated to comply with the City of Philadelphia's Fair Practices Ordinance (FPO) in its provision of foster care services – particularly, the provision in the FPO that requires government contractors to not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

PFP is jointly represented by the ACLU and the ACLU of Pennsylvania with our friends, Support Center for Child Advocates. PFP and the Support Center intervened in the case to represent the interests of foster-care youth and same-sex couples that are or hope to be foster parents. We are optimistic that our position will prevail and that our families will be able to work with every agency in the City of Philadelphia providing foster-care services.

More at <https://www.philadelphiafamilypride.org/fulton-v-city-of-phila.html>.



2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 2020 board of directors for PFP was elected at our annual membership meeting as part of our Winter Wonderland Party on January 4, 2020. The board's first meeting was in person (pictured below) at the home of one of the members. PFP is lucky to have such a dedicated group of volunteers leading this organization. Members for 2020 included:

Tariem Burroughs, Chair

Jadzia Axelrod, Vice Chair

Ruby Augustus, Secretary

Greg Yorgey-Girdy, Treasurer

Lori Keslowitz, Membership Committee Chair

Katy Chatel, Fundraising Committee Chair

Members at large: April Alexander, Shelli Branscomb, Tiffany Byrd, Gina Cline, Rebecca Nayak, Hunter McCorkel, Sebastian Miller, Adam Podowitz-Thomas, Mikah Thomas, and Brenda Zenoka.



2020 INCOME

Philadelphia Family Pride's income for 2020 was gratefully very similar to our income in 2019. Our conference sponsors came through big for LGBTQ+ families, and those who were able to continued their support as PFP members. See the pie chart below.

Conference Sponsorships - \$22,869

Membership Dues - \$3,404

Grants - \$2,500

Conference Registration Fees - \$1,892

Non-membership Donations - \$1,096

Silent Auction - \$915

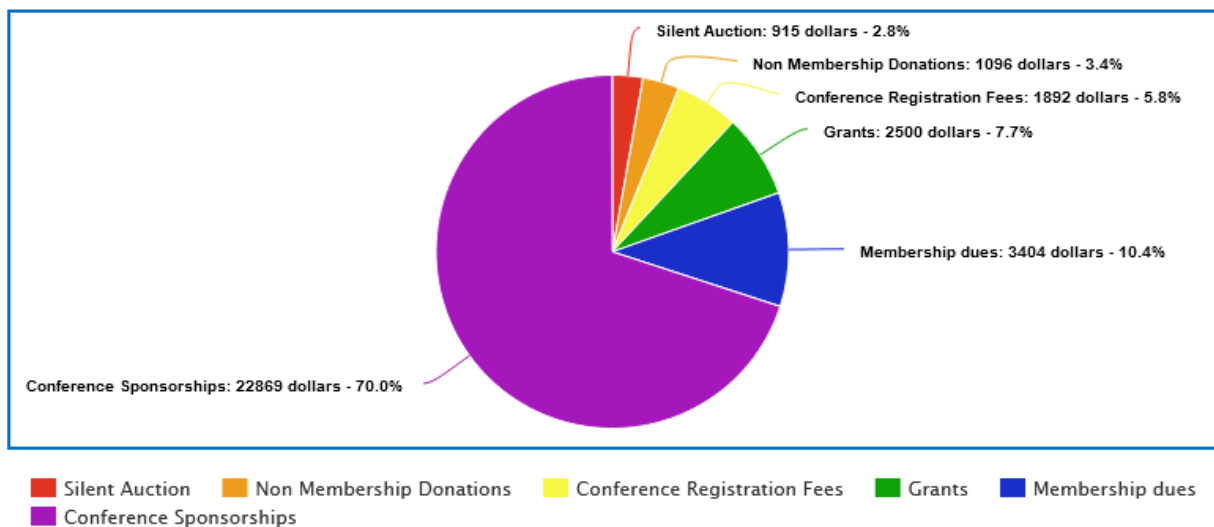
The \$2,500 grant from the Delaware Valley Legacy Fund allowed us to support a lot of our virtual programming and helped make the switch to online events.

The one area that was down was conference fees from individual registrants, which makes sense given that our conference was online and many of the amenities weren't part of the package (breakfast, lunch, child care, etc..) this year.

See the following page for details on our expenses.

Questions? Contact PFP ED Stephanie Haynes at stephanie@phillyfamilypride.org.

PFP Income Jan 2020 - Dec 2020
Prepared by Good Day Accounting



2020 EXPENSES

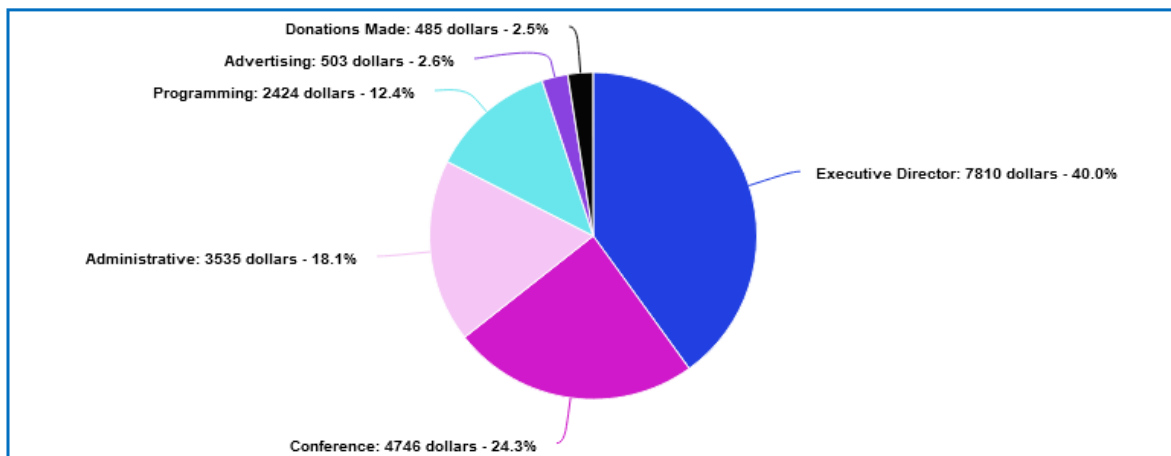
Philadelphia Family Pride's expenses for 2020 were very different from expenses in previous years. Pre-COVID, many of our expenses revolved around holding in-person events and subsidizing ticket prices to various family-friendly venues for our members.

Our annual conference also incurred many fewer expenses given that we weren't feeding people, printing programs, shirts, bags and more.

See the breakout of our expenses in the pie chart below. We've additionally broken out the administrative expenses below that so it is clear what those monies were going toward.

If you have any questions about our expenses or admin expenses, please contact PFP ED Stephanie Haynes at stephanie@phillyfamilypride.org.

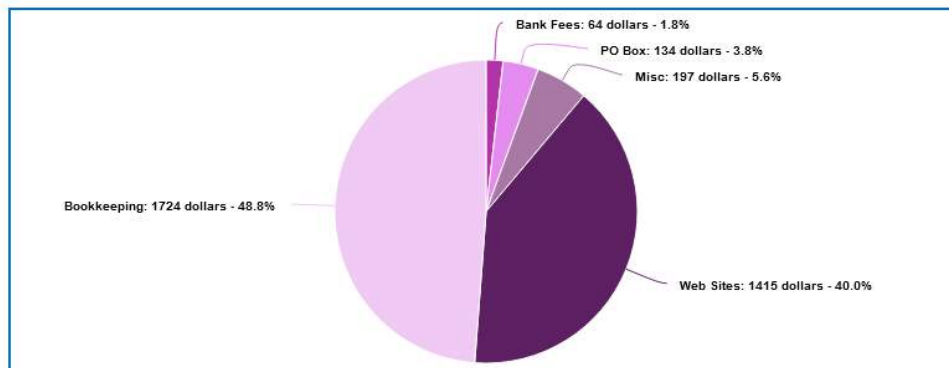
PFP Expenses Jan 2020 - Dec 2020
Prepared by Good Day Accounting



Executive Director Conference Administrative Programming Advertising Donations Made

meta-chart.com

PFP Admin Expenses Jan 2020 - Dec 2020
Prepared by Good Day Accounting



Bank Fees PO Box Misc Web Sites Bookkeeping

meta-chart.com

A LOOK AHEAD

When looking ahead to what 2021 will bring us, finding out the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in the *Fulton v. City of Philadelphia* case looms large. We plan to hold events and educate our members and the public about what the decision means for us.

Also, writing this in the beginning of March, 2021, it is difficult to know when things will get to the point that it is safe for us to resume in person PFP events for LGBTQ-led families.

Whereas last year at this time we were planning in-person events with virtual events as backups, this year we're doing the opposite – planning for virtual events with the idea that MAYBE we can switch this summer or fall back to some in-person gatherings.

But whether we hold events in person or on Zoom, we will continue to provide PFP families with the same community support that they've come to know and depend on.



Contact:

Email: info@phillyfamilypride.org

Web: www.philadelphiafamilypride.org

Mail: PO Box 31848, Philadelphia, PA 19104

Facebook: www.facebook.com/phillyfamilypride

Instagram: @PhillyFamilyPride

Twitter: @PhillyFamPride

