

PHILADELPHIA FAMILY PRIDE



2022 ANNUAL REPORT



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Our Mission:

Philadelphia Family Pride's mission is to build community for LGBTQ+ parents, prospective parents, grandparents and our kids of all ages – including adults, youth, kids, toddlers and infants. We support our families in the greater Philadelphia region through advocacy, education and family-centered events.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Yet another year is in the books for Philadelphia Family Pride. So much happened in 2022, it's hard to know where to start! It was truly a transitional year for the organization. We started the year with virtual events and ended with almost all of our events back to being held in-person.

Our staff expanded with the addition of Assistant Director Shanay Rowe (she/her). We couldn't be more thrilled with Shanay's work with PFP thus far and are excited to see what she'll do this year! (More on Shanay on page 5.)

Philly Pride was run by a new organization and was truly a reimagined event in the Gayborhood, where the youth and family area took over three whole blocks (more on page 8)! PFP also attended three other local Pride festivals, had a team in the Philly Pride Run 5K, and hosted our first ever Juneteenth Family Pride Picnic. It really felt like we were making up for lost time while bringing the lessons of the pandemic with us.

This year is looking to be bigger and better than ever. We can't wait to see you at a PFP gathering soon! If there is something we can do for you and your family, please let us know. My email address is stephanie@phillyfamilypride.org.

Joyfully,



STEPHANIE C. HAYNES

Executive Director



OUR VALUES

Philadelphia Family Pride feels that it is important to state our values as an organization, starting with naming the land that the organizers occupy and organize upon as stolen land.

Philadelphia and the surrounding areas are located on **land stolen from the Leni Lenape**. Their historical territory included present-day northeastern Delaware, New Jersey, the Lehigh Valley and other regions of eastern Pennsylvania, New York City, western Long Island, and the lower Hudson Valley. Take time to educate yourselves and your children about the history and present-day lives of the indigenous people in the places you live, work, and travel.

We also reiterate, 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. We also support educating children about the history of our country, including the history of the treatment of Black and indigenous people. 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.

We also shout from the rooftops that **Trans Lives Matter**. The many attacks on trans and nonbinary adults, youth, and children in Pennsylvania and around the country are unacceptable. We celebrate the contributions of trans and nonbinary members of the community and wholeheartedly support affirming health care for trans and nonbinary children and the professionals who care for them.



The above photo is from the City of Philadelphia Mayor's Office from the celebration of Indigenous People's Day 2021.

MEET SHANAY ROWE

Shanay Rowe (she/her) accepted the invitation to join the PFP team as assistant director in March of 2022. In her first year with the organization she has caught the attention of city officials, non-profit administrators, and media representatives.

In June 2022, she was invited by the Mayor's Office of LGBT Affairs to speak at the raising of the pride flag at City Hall (see photo below). During the same month, with the support of the PFP board and ED, she took lead on planning the city's first LGBTQ+ centered Juneteenth picnic.

Currently, Shanay is working with the Philadelphia Department of Public Health and the School District of Philadelphia to bridge the gap in reaching LGBTQ+ persons in underserved neighborhoods. Shanay's scholarly work is centered on identifying and addressing the unique needs of those holding the intersecting identities of being Black, and a member of the LGBTQ+ community. She is currently working on her doctorate degree, focusing her dissertation on the experiences of Black LGBTQ+ students who attend HBCUs.

While Shanay has been an advocate for the past two decades, she understands there is much more work to be done in our communities. As quoted in a WHYY article, Shanay understand that "If organizations here in Philadelphia shift our focus to safety, providing access to the most marginalized, and centering those experiences, we can approach equality and equity with integrity."

Shanay currently lives in the Philadelphia area with her wife Rita and their son Christopher.



SOCIAL EVENTS

PFP resumed in-person events in February 2022 and continued to hold a variety of meetups, hangouts, and gatherings throughout the year in outside venues in an effort to continue to keep our families safe from COVID-19. We also continued some programming online, including the monthly Zoom meetups for trans and nonbinary parents, dads, and bi and pansexual parents.

In all, we held 28 meetups and events in-person and a whopping 47 on Zoom in 2022. Programming in person included a Valentine's Drag Story Time in the snow, a potluck pool party at a member's house in Mt. Airy, a queer families bird walk, and a Halloween party.

We also organized the first Juneteenth Family Pride Picnic... more on that event on the next page.

In addition to the monthly meetups, virtual programming included lots of educational sessions that we'll talk more about the Education & Advocacy page.

Thanks to board member and events planning committee chair Lori Keslowitz for making sure these events went off without a hitch!



Halloween Party, October 2022

JUNETEENTH PICNIC

PFP held our first-ever Juneteenth Family Pride Picnic on Saturday, June 18th, 2022 at the Lovett Library Park in Mt. Airy. This was a tobacco-free event which centered LGBTQ+ Black families, history, vendors, and artists. Thanks to the Bradbury-Sullivan Center for funding to make this picnic possible.

A free BBQ lunch from Streetside BBQ was provided as well as free vegan ice cream from Vannah Banana. Entertainment included our favorite performer Icon Ebony Fierce with a drag story time, drumming with Jan Jeffries, and Quany the Clown with a clown show, magic act, face painting and stilt walker.

We also provided a bounce house, free giveaways, and resource tables from local community groups including the Attic Youth Center, PFLAG-Philly, Prevention Meets Fashion, ACLU of PA, and Fifty Shades of Purple Against Bullying.

Vendors that attended included Naturally Queer, SCB Naturals, JazMakes Studios, GrrlBlk, Buddha Babe, and Brixxy & Co. PFP board member Naomi Washington-Leapheart addressed the group. Her speech can be found in the blog on our website.



Juneteenth Picnic, 2022

PRIDE REIMAGINED

Philadelphia Family Pride was thrilled to be a part of the newly reimagined PHL Pride Collective's Pride March and Festival on Sunday, June 5th celebrating 50 years since the first pride march took place in Philadelphia in 1972.

The march began with speeches, music and joy at 10:30am at the Constitution Center and stepped off at 11am. It ended in the Gayborhood at the Pride Festival, centering around 13th and Locust Streets. This year there was a HUGE Youth and Families area spanning three blocks from 12pm-6pm. There were family-friendly musical and drag performances, clowns, jugglers, face painting, video game trucks, therapy dogs to pet, bounce houses, and a baby area inside the William Way Center!

We were particularly excited for the "Meet the Authors" tent where local LGBTQ+ authors were on hand to chat with folks, including PFP Board Member Jadzia Axelrod who was there to talk about her new graphic novel with DC Comics "Galaxy: The Prettiest Star." Other authors who appeared included Kyle Lukoff, Rafi Mittlefehldt, Andrea Tsurumi, Erik Brown, Charles Bush, mothasista, Rashid Malik Davis, Alex London, Katherine Locke, and Ian Morrison.

If you are interested in volunteering with PFP at this or any of the other Pride events in June, please get in touch with us! In addition to participating in Philly Pride, we also had resource tables at Upper Darby Pride, Narberth Pride, Bucks/Montco Pride and GFS's Night of Noise!



PFP's Table at Philly Pride, 2022

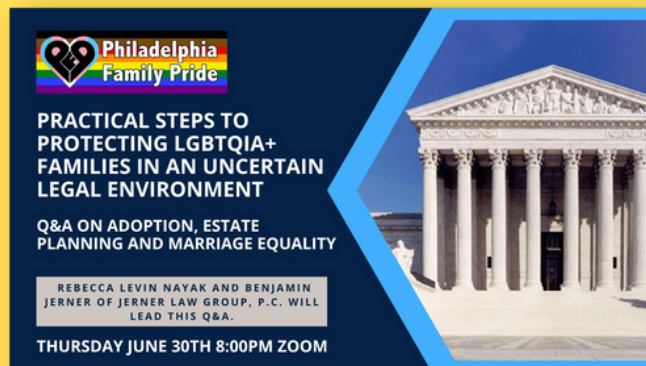
EDUCATION & ADVOCACY

As part of our mission, PFP strives to educate our membership and the wider community about issues important to LGBTQ+ families and their possible impacts.

PFP lent its collective voice to the chorus of outrage over the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade* and eliminate the constitutional right to abortion that has been in place for fifty years. Other settled freedoms -- familial relationships and procreation, in particular -- could be the next subject of legal attacks as these freedoms are "part of the same constitutional fabric, protecting autonomous decision-making over the most personal of life decisions" as outlined in the dissenting opinion. We hosted a discussion on June 30th of the legal protections that families can put into place to best protect their families with attorneys Rebecca Levin Nayak (who is also a PFP board member and parent) and Benjamin Jerner of Jerner Law Group, P.C..

Philadelphia also recently expanded nondiscrimination protections for trans and nonbinary youth in Philly schools and youth programs. The Attic Youth Center, PFLAG Philadelphia, and PFP hosted a discussion with Councilmember Helen Gym on August 10th and Chloe Harris a former PFP board member who works with Parks & Rec. We learned how these protections came to exist, the advocates behind the law's success, and how these changes impact our families.

Other educational programming included sessions on "Queer Family, Queer Faith" with PFP board member Naomi Washington-Leapheart and a screening and discussion of the PFLAG-sponsored film "Taking the Long Road Home."



Social Media Ads for Educational Programming

PATHS TO PARENTHOOD

Providing educational classes for LGBTQ+ prospective parents is one of Philly Family Pride's core missions. In 2022, we continued the model we started in 2020 of having a series of stand-alone sessions in the summer that could be attended virtually or watched at a later time on our YouTube channel.

We'd like to thank our 2022 Bridging the Gaps summer intern Phoebe Cunningham for her work in putting together and running these sessions for prospective parents. Phoebe set up and moderated seven classes on the following topics:

- Financial Planning for LGBTQ+ Prospective Parents (a new topic)
- Demystifying Surrogacy
- Adoption Options
- Becoming an LGBTQ+ Foster Parent
- Ask Your Family Formation Legal Questions
- Choosing a Sperm Donor
- Achieving Pregnancy with Donor Sperm

We also held an in-person mixer for class presenters and participants at the Parks on Tap behind the Philadelphia Museum of Art.



HYBRID CONFERENCE

Our 13th Annual Family Matters Conference took place as a hybrid event this year during the evenings of Thursday, Nov. 3rd and Friday, Nov. 4th on Zoom and during the day on Saturday, Nov. 5th outside at the Smith Memorial Playground and Playhouse in Philadelphia's Fairmount Park.

The theme was "Family Reunion" with sessions for parents on topics about reconnecting; our inheritance, traditions and heritage as LGBTQ-led families; and exploring and navigating the paths to parenthood for prospective parents.

Sessions on Zoom included "LGBTQ+ Parenting at the Intersections" led by PFP's Shanay Rowe, "Finding Affirming Providers," "Navigating Challenging Conversations with Youth" and "What's at Stake for Our Families in this Election?" with Rep. Malcolm Kenyatta.

The in person portion of the event included resource tables, mixers for parents with different aged kids and expectant parents, and a carnival from our friends at Camp Highlight. Streetside BBQ once again provided a delicious lunch along with a vegan option from Goldie Falafel.



2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 2022 Board of Directors for PFP was elected at our annual membership meeting as part of our Virtual Town Hall on January 9, 2022. PFP is fortunate to have such a dedicated group of volunteers leading this organization. Members for 2022 included:

Tiffany Byrd, Co-Chair

Gina Rose, Co-Chair

Hunter McCorkel, Secretary

Jadzia Axelrod, Treasurer

Lori Keslowitz, Events Planning Committee Chair

Michael Galvan, Education & Advocacy Committee Chair

Naomi Washington-Leapheart, Membership Committee Chair

Members at large: Tariem Burroughs, Sherri Graham, Sebastian Miller, Rebecca Nayak, Sherley Olopherne, Adam Podowitz-Thomas, Skott Stotland, and Mikah Thomas.



PFP Staff, Intern and Board Members at the Juneteenth Picnic, June 2022

2022 INCOME

Philadelphia Family Pride's income for 2022 surpassed 2021 and some of our pre-pandemic years as well. Conference sponsors again came through big for LGBTQ+ families, and those who were able to continued their support as PFP members.

Conference Sponsorships - \$18,875

Membership Dues - \$4,691

Conference Registration Fees - \$1,854

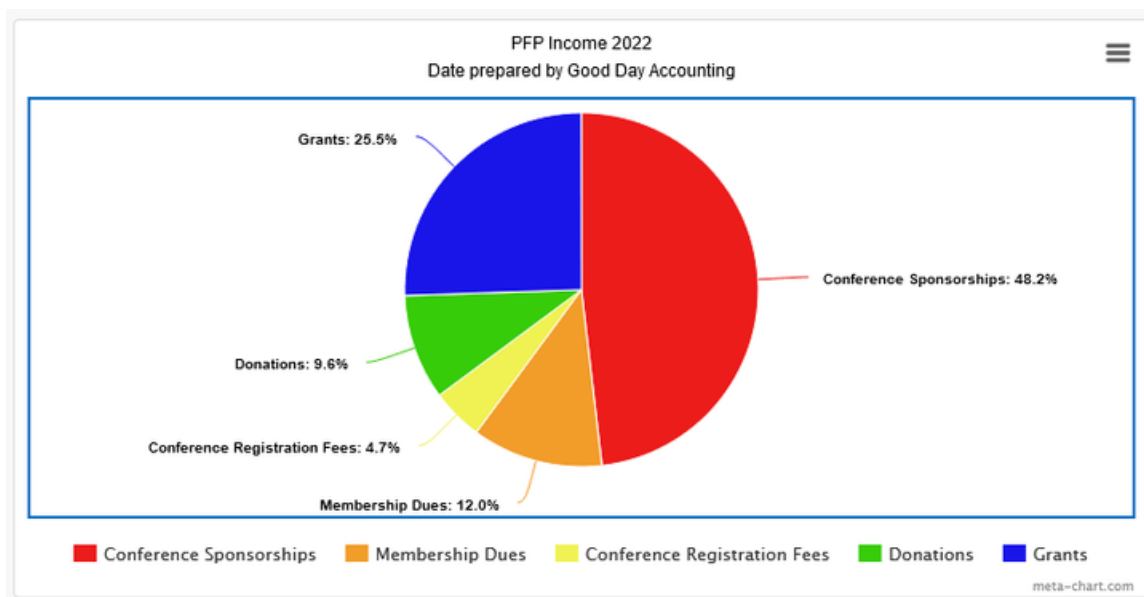
Non-membership Donations - \$3,778

Grants - \$10,000

TOTAL INCOME: \$39,198

The grants income came from the Bradbury-Sullivan Center as part of their anti-tobacco work. We were able to run ads in the newsletter promoting the PA Quitline, and put together social media campaigns, quizzes, and a blog post educating parents about how to talk to kids about tobacco and vaping. The Juneteenth Family Pride Picnic was tobacco-free and paid for through this grant money.

Thank you to Jaie Bosse at Good Day Accounting for their work in keeping our books again this year.



2022 EXPENSES

Philadelphia Family Pride's expenses for 2022 returned to similar levels pre-COVID with the return of Pride festivals and big in-person events. Staff expenses increased with the addition of our new assistant director. See the breakout of our expenses by percentage in the pie chart below.

Programming: \$12,025

Promotion: \$2,251

Administrative: \$3,904

Staff: \$20,229

Conference: \$6,695

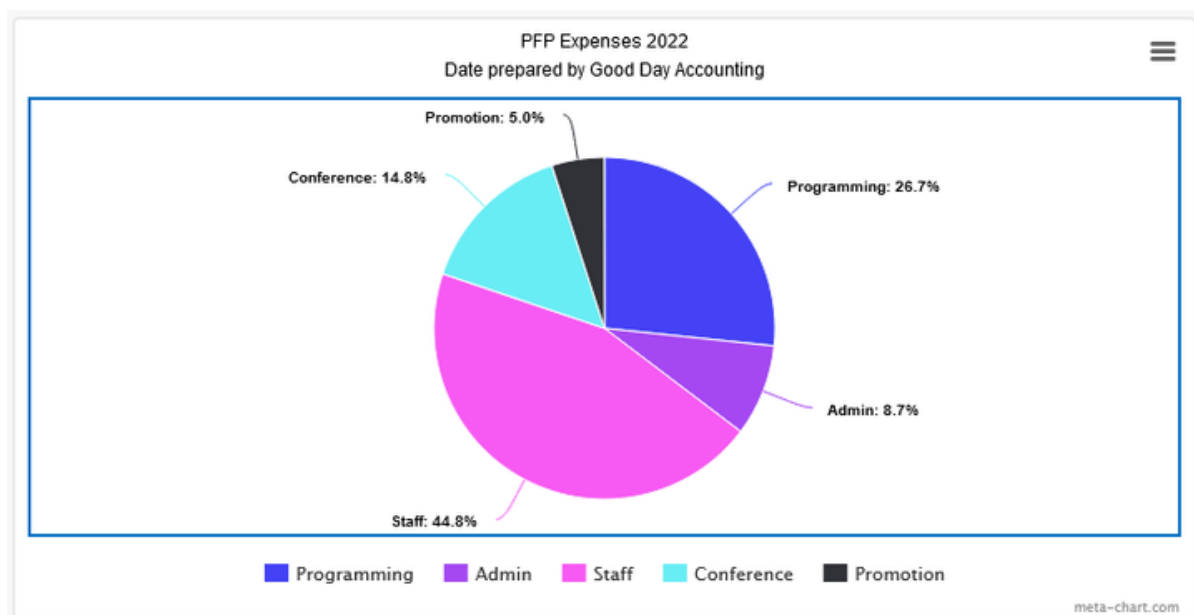
TOTAL EXPENSES: \$45,104

Programming expenses included costs for participating in Pride festivals, large events we sponsored (not including the conference), and small get-togethers.

Administrative expenses include the cost of our bookkeeping service, administration of websites, our PO Box rental fee, and software.

We had approximately \$25,000 cash on hand at the beginning of 2022, so we were comfortable with operating at a deficit for the year as we got back to pre-COVID programming.

If you have any questions about our expenses or income, please direct them to our Executive Director Stephanie Haynes at stephanie@phillyfamilypride.org.



A LOOK AHEAD

In 2023, we are looking to build on the momentum from the resumption of in-person events in 2022. There are plans already in the works for our biggest ever Winter Wonderland Party in January and a Valentine's Party in February in collaboration with our friends from other LGBTQ+ community groups in the area.

We are also working to expand our resources, reach, and the services we are providing to the community with additional, new programming such as a book swap in the spring.

As a reminder, this organization is run primarily by the volunteers who sit on our board and organize and attend our events, get-togethers and meetups, and supported by our two part-time staff. If you'd like to get more involved with PFP in 2023, please let us hear from you: attend meetups, volunteer for one of the board committees (membership, events planning, fundraising, education and advocacy) or help us plan our conference!

We love to learn from LGBTQ+ parents, prospective parents, grandparents and especially our kids of all ages. Let us know what else we can do to be of service to the community!



Drag Story Time in the snow in February, 2022

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