

# 2020-2021 Annual Report

## Community Service and Outreach

- Administered COVID-19 Financial Assistance Fund
  - distributed \$17,065 into the community with assistance of a grant from Equality Illinois
- Coordinated COVID-19 mask distribution and fundraiser that raised \$1,300 for the Bistro
- Funded rental of stage at 2021 Bistروفest
- Donated LGBTQ+ books to local libraries
- Tabled at various events in the B/N area
- Maintained consistent online presence via web site and Facebook
- Co-sponsored with Howard Brown Health cultural competency training for 150 student nurses in LGBT elder care issues
- Continued support for Acorn Equality Fund and its scholarship program
- Board members penned columns on LGBTQ+ healthcare and other issues

## New Initiatives

- Established the Gender Expansive Resource Center of Central Illinois
  - collaboration with the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington/Normal
  - providing gender affirming undergarments and other services for the trans, nonbinary, and gender non-conforming community of Central Illinois (McLean, Livingston, DeWitt, Peoria, Tazewell, and Marshall counties)
  - tripling budget in 2022 to \$3,000 in response to demand
- Established the Pride of the Prairie Student Scholarship
  - awarded two \$500 scholarships in 2021 to high school students in Bloomington/Normal
- Created Queer Support Group
  - co-sponsored with the McLean County ROSC - Recovery Oriented Systems of Care
- Established LGBTQ+ Book Group in cooperation with B/N chapter of PFLAG
- Established Gaymers Group, a joint venture with Red Raccoon Games
- Assumed oversight of Friends Like Us Youth Group
  - previously managed by the Central Illinois Pride Health Center
- Continued planning for new support group for LGBT people living with disabilities (launch in April 2022)
- Conducted monthly virtual community meetings, a joint venture with Equality Illinois
- Continued work on local Spirituality Equality Index (publication in June 2022)
- Established Financial Support Fund for School GSAs/pride clubs

## Ongoing Annual Events

- World AIDS Day Memorial co-sponsored with the McLean County Health Department, Central Illinois Friends, and ISU University Galleries
- Pride "Family Reunion" Picnic
- Pulse Nightclub Memorial co-sponsored with the Bistro and Mclean County Moms Demand Action
- LGBTQIA+ Town Hall co-sponsored with Equality Illinois
- LGBTQ+ Advocacy Day in Springfield co-sponsored with Equality Illinois

## Ongoing Projects/Programming/Advocacy

- B/N Area LGBTQIA+ Business and Resource Directory (new edition available in June 2022)
- Production and staging of LGBTQIA+ plays co-sponsored with Coalescence Theatre Project
- Advocacy and actions to Support Pro-LGBTQIA+ legislation
- LGBTQ+ Older Adult Issues – a collaborations with SAGE and Compassion & Choices
- Became a SAGE-certified agency (silver level)