



Screening of "Photos of Angie"

Wednesday, November 9th at 7pm

November is the month of Transgender Remembrance. PFLAG Boulder County, in partnership with the Office of Human Rights and Community Relations and the Colorado Anti-Violence Project, will co-sponsor the first screening of a new film in our community entitled: "Photos of Angie". Denver filmmaker Alan Dominguez spent a little more than a year making the film "Photos of Angie" to help others understand the violence transgender people face daily. We are honored that Marie Zapata, Angie's mom, and other members of the family, Stephanie and Gonsalo, have agreed to attend. They will join Mr. Dominguez and Kelly Costello from the Colorado Anti-Violence Project for a post-film discussion.



The family of Angie Zapata poses for a photo while at her grave site in the Hillside Cemetery in Fort Lupton. The family is, from left, Gonsalo Zapata, Nicole Zapata, Maria Zapata and Monica Zapata.
JIM RYDBOM / jrydbom@greeleytribune

Plan to arrive by 6:45 p.m. for open seating at the Boulder Public Library Auditorium, 9th & Canyon. The film will be shown promptly at 7 p.m. to allow time for discussion to follow. We need to end by 8:30. Free and open to the public.

Note the change of both venue and day.

Save The Date! Gala Holiday Potluck

Tuesday, December 13th, 6:30pm

Plan to share your holiday spirit amid good food (bring a dish to share) and good company. The board of directors will provide table service and the usual delicious main dishes. You bring a side dish or dessert.

Tony Tenenbaum has promised to provide musical entertainment for us.

Meetings

PFLAG Boulder County
First United Methodist Church
1421 Spruce Street
14th & Spruce - 303.444.8164

7:00 PM - Program
8:30 PM - Support & Advocacy Groups Meet

The public is always welcome to the main program at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, held in the Parlor.

At 8:30 p.m. a support group, especially intended for newcomers and others dealing with personal LGBT-related issues, meets in the library as long as needed. Confidentiality is promised.

Contact info@pflagboulder.org with questions, concerns, or requests for support to get a personal response.

November 9th
PFLAG Program
Photos of Angie

December 13th
Annual Gala Holiday Potluck



In Remembrance: The Story of Angie Zapata
By Sandhya Luther, Director of Advocacy, Colorado Anti-Violence Project

Angie Zapata, a transgender woman who was beaten to death in Greeley the year before by a man purportedly enraged over learning she was biologically male. Angie’s murder was the first time in the country that the murder of a transgender was prosecuted under a hate crime law. Now, three years after burying Angie, the family must endure what they call the next chapter in a seemingly enduring cycle of hate and ignorance. Once again, in August, 2011, their daughter, Stephanie, has been attacked, and in the family’s view, both attacks were hate crimes committed by men enraged by the daughters’ sexual orientation.

The documentary focuses on Angie Zapata, the Greeley teen who was beaten to death in 2008 by Allen Andrade. Andrade became the first person in the country convicted of murdering someone in a bias-motivated crime against a transgender.

The documentary has been making the film festival rounds throughout the West.

In April 2009, a jury convicted Thornton resident Allen Andrade of a bias-motivated crime in murdering Angie, then 18. Angie’s trial received national attention, and even sparked the passage of a national hate-crimes law months later.

Buck said Andrade had made statements such as “I killed it” and “Gay things need to die.” He also was a gang member from a culture that dictates an extreme intolerance for homosexuality. His gang membership, however, was excluded from the trial.

Maria Zapata, who pushed Weld prosecutors in the Andrade case, said it’s the principle of the matter at this point. “I know I shouldn’t compare what’s going on with Stephanie with what happened to my Angie, but, I don’t want to take the chance of him being set free of anything,” she said. “I don’t want him free. ”If convicted, Martinez-Hernandez could face from 16 to 48 years in prison.



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National PFLAG to Honor PFLAG Boulder County

Eight members from PFLAG, who are attending the National PFLAG Convention, will enjoy a special tribute on Saturday, Nov. 5, at the Awards Banquet. Our chapter was nominated for an Outstanding Chapter Award for Education, but, instead, the committee decided that our exemplary project “**Faces and Facets of Transgender Experience**” deserved a special award. Kristen Kinard, Dennis Coombs, Maureen Cassulo, Karina Doyle, Karen Axe and Jean and Jack Hodges who are attending the convention, will represent our chapter to receive the first ever Outstanding Chapter Award for a project that realized all three parts of our mission of support, education and advocacy.

In addition, Karen Axe and Jean Hodges have been selected to present a workshop to show “**Faces and Facets**” and discuss the possible uses of the film in local chapters and their communities. A more detailed report from the Convention will be in our December newsletter.

Letter from a Gay Teen in Arizona

by Caleb Laieski

Dear PFLAG,

My name is Caleb Laieski, a 16-year-old of Arizona. As a gay youth, I have been the victim of bullying on a daily basis in my local public school. This including being followed home by other students who were threatening me, which led me to leave regular classes and pursue my GED instead of a high school diploma.

I thought I had the right to a public education in a safe environment, but found my teachers and school district indifferent to my situation and others like me. I lost a close friend my age to suicide due to similar circumstances, and have had several other close friends attempt suicide due to the same sorts of systematic and sustained harassment in public schools.

As I continue to fight for student safety, I recently have had the opportunity to meet President Obama and Vice-President Biden. While meeting them, I expressed my appreciation for their dedication towards making a more equal America and urged them to look into appointing a youth to the administration who would focus on issues that everyday youth face.

I am trying to collect around 5,000 signatures to push for this historic position that will hopefully help save many lives. Please urge your friends, family, colleagues and members to sign this petition on Change.org at <http://www.change.org/petitions/-president-obama-please-appoint-an-advisor-on-lgbt-youth-issues>.

Caleb Laieski.

Editor's note: This letter was vetted and all Caleb says is true. He is indeed a remarkable young man.

On June 29 Caleb made his third trip to Washington D.C. this year, where he was an invited guest of the White House to attend President Barack Obama's LGBT Pride Reception.



TransKids Project: A Longitudinal Study of Transgender/Gender-Variant Children and their Families

Do you have a child whose gender identity and/or expression differs from societal expectations for her/his assigned birth sex? Is your child 6 to 12 years old?

If you answered “yes” to the above two questions, you are invited to participate in a longitudinal study being conducted by researchers at Miami University (Drs. Katherine Kovalanka and Judith Weiner) and Clark University (Dr. Abbie Goldberg). The goals of the TransKids Project include learning about the experiences of families with transgender and gender-variant children; assessing outcomes for these children over time; and identifying family, school, and community-level protective factors that promote the well-being of these youth.

Through bi-annual, 60-minute telephone interviews with parents and completion of standardized questionnaires, the aim is to provide insight into the experiences of families with transgender/gender-variant children over time. Utilizing both quantitative and qualitative research methods, a number of research questions, including the following, will be examined:

- How does the well-being of a community sample of transgender/gender-variant children compare to previously-collected data on community samples of same-age peers? (How) does their well-being change over time, and what factors seem to be associated with that change?
- (How) do transgender/gender-variant children’s gender identity and/or expression change over time?
- What are the different ways that parents/families/communities exhibit affirmation and rejection of transgender/gender-variant children’s gender identity and expression? (How) does parental/familial/community affirmation and rejection of transgender/gender-variant children’s gender identity and expression have an influence on child well-being?

Study findings are expected have implications for research, policy, and practice. This study, therefore, is intended to benefit:

- Researchers – and society, in general – by adding to our knowledge and understanding of transgender/gender-variant children and their families;
- Parents of transgender/gender-variant children in their decision-making regarding how to respond to their children’s gender nonconformity, and in their efforts to advocate for their children in schools and medical settings;
- Mental health practitioners, who want to base their treatment recommendations on sound, evidence-based research; and Policymakers, such as school administrators, who are looking for guidance regarding how best to accommodate the needs of transgender/gender-variant students, and health professionals and others who have the power to effect change regarding medical treatment for transgender/gender-variant youth.

Study findings will be shared with researchers, parents, schools, community groups, and policymakers

via conference presentations, community newsletter submissions, academic journal articles, and other appropriate avenues for dissemination.

The development of this study has been a collaborative effort between the researchers, community members, and the project’s advisory committee. The advisory committee consists of the following four members, one of whom is Karen Axe.

Karen Axe is a parent of a young transgender child and the initiator of this study. She contacted the study researchers and asked if they (or other researchers they knew) would be interested in conducting a longitudinal research project to follow families like hers over time, so that the parents could better understand whether their efforts to be accepting of their children’s gender nonconformity are helpful in regards to their children’s well-being. Karen has become an advocate for families with transgender/gender-variant children. She agreed to be our chapter’s Transgender Coordinator.

TYES

A Support Organization for Families with Gender Variant Children

Meets, 6 p.m. on fourth Fridays
E-mail: TYES.group@gmail.com

First United Methodist Church of Boulder
is proud to host the PFLAG monthly meeting
www.fumcboulder.org
Education Hour 9am - Worship 10:30am

Celebrating Diversity
Embracing Inclusivity
Sharing God’s Unconditional Love

Leadership: Statewide Collaboration
By Shari Wilkins
PFLAG Denver Board Chair and Past-President Colorado Coalition of PFLAG Chapters

Joe Moore and Deborah Stone are representing PFLAG Denver, and Shari Wilkins and John Case (PFLAG Ft. Collins) are representing the Colorado Coalition of PFLAG Chapters as we work collaboratively to develop leadership, build strategic plans and form networks and alliances of GLBT communities, PFLAG chapters and other agencies and organizations.

Leadership Through Pride is a small group of individuals who represent varied groups from around the state. The group is being facilitated by Carlos Martinez of the GLBT Community Center and will engage in quarterly day-long trainings, monthly conference calls and site visits in order to strengthen our individual organizations and the GLBT community around the state. Shari Wilkins has had conversations with regional and national PFLAG leaders who are supportive of this potential model for collaborative communities.

At the end of this year each organization will have created a strategic plan which will create statewide outreach and increase the use of technology to communicate and advance alliances. Each PFLAG chapter will remain an independent chapter and the Colorado Coalition of PFLAG Chapters will become the umbrella organization. As we realize the need for statewide participation in supporting, educating and advocating for our GLBT community members, families and friends, such an effort seems both timely and rejuvenating. The Leadership Through Pride group has already had one day-long training, one site visit and one conference call, so progress is under-way. Stay tuned for updates.



PFLAG Boulder County
 PO Box 19696
 Boulder, CO 80308
303.444.8164
 www.pflagboulder.org

PFLAG Boulder meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at First United Methodist Church, 14th and Spruce, Boulder, Colorado. Program starts at 7:00 pm, sharing time begins at 8:30 pm.

REMEMBER, our confidentiality pledge must not be broken.

Newsletter is published monthly. A subscription is included with each membership to PFLAG. Material related to PFLAG is welcome from any source. Deadline is the twentieth of each month. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject, or edit any material submitted.

Membership Categories

- \$25.00 Individual
- \$35.00 Family
- \$10.00 Student
- \$10.00 Newsletter Only
- \$50.00 Supporting
- \$100.00+ Sustaining

Membership dues are renewed on October 1st of each year. Send address changes and membership information to PFLAG, P.O. Box 19696, Boulder, CO 80308.

Advertising

Business card size: \$15 monthly / \$130 annually. Please contact Richard Butler (303-530-2156). If special arrangements need to be made feel free to send an email.
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OUR MISSION

PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gays, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered persons, their families and friends through:

- SUPPORT**, to cope with an adverse society;
- EDUCATION**, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and
- ADVOCACY**, to end discrimination and to secure civil rights.

PFLAG provides opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.

Help Wanted

A volunteer with a creative bent to use computer generated graphics for PFLAG flyers, bookmarks, brochures. PFLAG will purchase PaintShop Pro and Publisher. Time---a couple hours a month. Can work from home. No need to attend board meetings.

Thanks to Mandy Blumreich for volunteering to manage our chapter website as well as administer our new Facebook page.

Please "like" this new page. Contact Mandy if you have information or thoughts to add to either site: mandy.blumreich@gmail.com.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Pflag-Boulder-County/215818361811418>

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2nd Annual Boulder Count GSA (Gay Straight Alliance) Summit

December 3rd, Time and Place TBA

All Boulder and St. Vrain GSA members are welcome to attend and help plan this day of workshops designed to enhance youth leadership skills and growth of local GSA's. For more information, please contact Amy at awinchester@bouldercounty.org.

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