



Creating a caring, just, and affirming world
for LGBTQ+ people and those who love them.

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Dear PFLAG Cape Cod Supporter,

Hard to believe that October is right around the corner, and with it the start of PFLAG Cape Cod's 2024 fiscal year! Which is why I'm reaching out at this time to encourage you to join or renew your membership so that we may continue providing support, education, and advocacy right here on the Cape and Islands! For your convenience, you can easily join/renew online at www.pflagcapecod.org.

It's been a busy year for our organization! In October 2022, we proudly hosted the symposium, "Supporting LGBTQ+ Students in Our Schools", an informative and timely event for school faculty. In March, we hosted the virtual screening of two excellent short films, *Into Light* and *I Am Skylar*, in honor of Transgender Day of Visibility. Then in May, we awarded four \$2,500 scholarships (\$10,000 total!) to four high school seniors who have been advocates for equality, the most ever thanks to the additional financial support of a few very generous donors. This brings the total amount we've awarded in scholarships since 2003 to over \$85,000... an impressive amount for our chapter!

As you may be aware, PFLAG's 50th anniversary is this year, and to commemorate this milestone the organization completely rebranded, as did our chapter with updated rack cards (one is enclosed), website, email marketing, t-shirt, swag, and so much more! During the past year, we've tabled at over a dozen community events, making our resources and materials, such as educational booklets and our wildly popular pronoun pins, available to a large audience. In addition to our podcast series, *Profiles in LGBTQ+ Courage*, which chronicles individuals with interesting stories to tell, our list of resources is extensive and continues to grow, as a visit to our website will attest!

A hallmark of our organization is the monthly support meeting, and this past May we added a *third* with a Portuguese-language meeting at Latinx in Action in Hyannis. Along with our virtual meetings via Zoom and in-person meetings in Brewster, this third monthly support meeting allows us to broaden our reach even more. In addition, our Speakers Bureau spoke to several local organizations this past year, including The Cape Cod Foundation, Queerhub MV and Family Resource Center on Martha's Vineyard, South Yarmouth Library, and The Terraces in Orleans, to name a few, demonstrating how we bring our message of "leading with love" out into the community!

In June, we were honored to be the recipient of donations from Pride Month fundraisers held by local businesses, including our third with The Stand and Daily Brew which raised \$1,200, and a one-day event at Lilly Pulitzer stores on the Cape, the Islands, and Boston, raising \$4,600! Even individuals got in on the action by hosting fundraisers of their own, such as a Vegan Sushi and Pampered Chef events. Also in June, we participated in Wequassett Resort's inaugural pride party, "Out on the Bay", and marched in the Martha's Vineyard Pride Parade, followed by the Provincetown Carnival Parade in August. With "Land of Toys" as this year's Carnival theme, our Care Bears float was decorated to celebrate those adorable symbols of caring, friendship, and love that are synonymous with our organization!

Finally, our **2023 Annual Meeting** is on **Thursday, October 26th from 7:00-8:30 pm** and will be taking place in person for the first time since 2019, so save the date! More information is in the enclosed flyer, but in the meantime, please join or renew your membership with PFLAG Cape Cod... without your support, all of this would not be possible!

Yours in unity and pride,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joe".

Joe Lima (he/him)
President, PFLAG Cape Cod