I love everything they're doing at The Center for LGBTQ+ youth, all the way to seniors. It is such a great safe place for the community.
I am so proud to work with this incredible group of people. They are remarkable in so many ways and have done the hard, but satisfying, work serving our community through an impossible time. I thank each and every one of them for their innovation and dedication.

— Cara Dessert, CEO

Thank you

2020-2021 STAFF*

Tanesha Adams  Stephen Carroll  Elizabeth Green  Sarah Merk-Benitez  Joseph Severino
Hannah Anew  Leo Cartier  Ashleigh Green  Noah Mixon  Francisco Soto
Bridgette Austin  Patricia Celaya  Christina Griffin-Jones  Alicia Montellanos  Cris Sotomayor
Mari Ayala  Edgar Chavarin Ayala  Malek Guerbaoui  Luis Montero-Adams  Shani Stewart
Melissa Bailey  Daniel Cordero  David Hallen  Yey Morales  Ashley Thomas
Monica Banuelos  Ro Cordova  Pamuela Halliwell  Alex Ordoubegian  Carolyn Tran
Gustavo Banuelos  Aliyah Crowder  Carter Hantula  Natalie Ortiz Soria  L Tulelefuga
Elisa Barnett  Jason Cuneo  Aaron Heier  Mars Pacelli  Tiana Vargas
Miguel Bernal  Caroline Dessert  Rebekah Hook-Held  Jacqueline Palmer  Naya Velazco
Karrah Bissett  Charles Enciso  Ian Johnson  Gustavo Perez  Prizila Vidal
Jeremy Bloom  Victor Esquivel  Sabrina Johnson  Shahriar Pezeshk Fallah  Dustin Walker
Collin Boudreaux  Lenitha Fields  Stevie Juarez  Alberto Ramirez-Rosales  Helen Weldeghiorgis
Eric Bowen  Ricardo Gallego  Alan Kaplan  Carolina Ramos  Lee Wilczek
Deja Cabrera  Jacqueline Gomez  Dorian Macon  Angela Reyes  Matty Xander
Eva Callahan  Angel Gonzalez  Megan Meek  Robert Rochin  Rick-Arlo Yah Lira
Ricardo Calleja  Vanessa Goodwin  Silvia Mejia  Ivan Rojas  Jenna Zamohi
Mardi Campbell  Vanessa Goodwin  Citalli Mendoza  Daniel Rubin

*The photo, as shown, does not include all staff. Staff list includes all staff employed during FY21.
2020-2021 Center Board of Directors

Lisa Sanders (She/Her/Hers) Co-chair
Land Acquisition Manager/Financial Analyst, Lennar-San Diego

Kafele Khalfani, Ed.D. (He/Him/His) Co-chair
Dean of Student Affairs for Warren College, University of California, San Diego

Warren Ruis (He/Him/His) Vice Chair
Director of Regional Public Affairs, San Diego Gas & Electric Company

Randall Clark (He/Him/His) Secretary
Senior Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer, Sempra Energy

Simonne Ruff (She/Her/Hers) Treasurer
San Diego Program Director, Corporation for Supportive Housing

Joanna Clark (She/Her/Hers) Talent Acquisition Leader for Asia and Enterprise Global Services, Wells Fargo & Co.

Zaneta Encarnacion (She/Her/Hers) Director, Special Assistant (Chief of Staff) to Superintendent/President Dr. Kindred Murillo, Southwestern College

Janessa Goldbeck (She/Her/Hers) Principal, Sui Generis Strategies

Richard Gutierrez (He/Him/His) Principal/Broker Associate, Barrow Gutierrez Realty Group, Inc.

Vernita Gutierrez (She/Her/Hers) Vice President of the Community and Government Relations (CGR) Department at Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest (PPPSW)

Bixby Marino-Kibbee (They/Them/Theirs) Director, Center for Gender-Affirming Care, Rady Children’s Hospital

Ben Mendoza (They/Them/Theirs) Council Representative, Office of Councilmember Sean Elo-Rivera, City of San Diego Council District 9

Francis Pickford, CPA (He/Him/His) Vice President of Finance, Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest

Sue Reynolds (She/Her/Hers) Nonprofit consultant; former President and CEO, Community HousingWorks

Dr. Joel F. Trambley, MD, PhD (He/Him/His) Program Director, Internal Medicine Residency, UHS Southern California Medical Education Consortium

MISSION STATEMENT
The San Diego LGBT Community Center enhances and sustains the health & well-being of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, transgender, nonbinary, immigrant, and HIV communities to the betterment of our entire San Diego region.

VISION
At The San Diego LGBT Community Center every person feels and knows that they are welcomed, valued, and supported. As the beacon for our regional LGBTQ community, each day we actively recommit to be a more vibrant, bold, innovative, safe, and modern Center than the day before.

“As a member of The Center Board, I take pride in the outstanding programs and services offered, as well as The Center’s investment in cultivating our community’s capacity to lead.
— Ben Mendoza (They/Them)”

“As a Center Board Member, I am proud to be part of an organization that found ways to continue to serve our Community through the pandemic, while preparing to be even stronger after.
— Dr. Joel Trambley (He/Him)”
DEAR CENTER COMMUNITY,

It seems unimaginable that we have surpassed the one and a half-year mark of the COVID-19 pandemic, and all that entails – the California Governor’s Stay-At-Home order, mask mandates, the creation of multiple vaccines and boosters, and deep community need for help. This past year has continued to be incredibly difficult – our lives have changed completely and there has been heartbreaking loss. The loss of human touch, of family, friends, loved ones, including over 500,000 people in the U.S. alone.

We have endured losses of community gatherings and annual celebrations, and so many have endured losses of employment and businesses and the dreams that go with them. At The Center, during fiscal year 2021 – a full year of the pandemic – we saw the impact of the pandemic, and the needs of our community have grown exponentially.

As we have since the beginning of the pandemic, The Center is still working at full capacity to serve our LGBTQ community through this pandemic. We’d like to share some defining moments from this past fiscal year:

• We provided 80,424 service visits to our community representing help, connection, safety, and security to a community member in need.

• CRITICAL SERVICES:

• Our Food Services Program exploded – we increased those we serve at our twice-monthly food banks, and created innovative food programs like Nourishing the Community and Non-Perishables Home Delivery, and have proudly conducted more than 14,000 service visits to community members.

• We provided critical housing assistance and more than $141,000 dollars in rental relief funds to help community members stay in their homes. Statistics show that 40% of youth experiencing homelessness identify as LGBTQ and the majority cite family rejection as the reason they are unhoused. As an effort to combat this, we have made over 2,400 service visits to transitional age youth to The Center’s Housing Programs and Services for those experiencing homelessness.

• Behavioral Health Services has continued to care for and support our community’s mental health, providing over 4,900 virtual individual counseling and group sessions.

• Our Emergency Referral and Resource Phone Line has fielded more than 3,200 calls to help and direct our community to resources.

• ESSENTIAL SUPPORT:

• Our critical and varied Support and Discussion Groups are still held virtually, and we’ve created new offerings to keep community connected, providing more than 1,200 support groups this past year.

• We continue to support our community’s Sexual Health and Wellness by providing HIV testing through the pandemic, redesigned with drive-thru and walk-up options.

At The Center, we have seen the impact of the pandemic, as the needs of our community have grown exponentially. We are here for you, as we have been for almost 50 years, and we look forward to the next 50 years of innovation, service, and community.

— Cara Dessert, CEO

• We have increased resources and services for our Black community, creating our Black Services Program, the first for The Center, that includes social events, Support and Discussion groups, and referrals to additional resources, including HIV testing and PrEP navigation, and more. The Center has also re-dedicated ourselves to our anti-Black racism work and trainings internally with our staff, board of directors, and our volunteers.
• The Center’s resources for our Seniors 50+ Better have continued and we’ve added new virtual groups, provided 33 laptops to seniors and training on how to navigate online discussion groups, fight isolation, stay fit, and access vital food resources.

• Hillcrest Youth Center and South Bay Youth Center have merged their programming during the pandemic, continuing to make a life-changing difference for LGBTQ youth with age-appropriate virtual discussion groups, one-on-one check ins, gender-affirming clothing and resources, assistance with resumes and acquiring jobs, food deliveries, and more. In FY21, more than 2,800 service visits were provided.

• Project TRANS has provided important Discussion and Support Groups to our transgender and nonbinary communities, as well as served more than 100 community members through our partnership with USD Law’s Name & Gender Marker Change Clinic. Center staff have written gender-affirming letters for gender confirmation surgeries and advocated and linked clients to care including primary care, specialty HIV care and prevention, hormone replacement therapy, legal assistance, and referrals.

• Latin@ Services has helped with support, advocacy, housing and rental assistance, translation services for documents, referrals to legal help, food resources, health education and referrals, and crisis intervention to our Latino/a/x and immigrant communities.

• ROBUST ENGAGEMENT:

• We conducted critical Civic Engagement work, engaging with our community for participation in both the U.S. Census and the 2020 General Election and connected with over 10,500 community members, and produced a 96% turnout rate from the thousands of community members we talked to about voting in the 2020 General Election. The Center also served as a 4-day Super Polling site, helping more than 1,200 community members to cast their ballot.

• We held exciting virtual events like The Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast and a four-day reimagined Dining Out For Life® San Diego that saw The Center give back to local bars and restaurants that have been so impacted by the pandemic.

Importantly, we have continued to be a trusted messenger to our community, to lead, inform, advocate, provide services, as well as help and hope, and we look forward to reopening your reimagined Center where every single community member is welcomed, valued, and supported.

We are so proud of our Center team, and just how much we have been able to create innovative ways to serve our LGBTQ community when you needed us the most. We thank our incredible Center community, who has made this work over this past year possible. Remember, The Center is here for you, as we have been for almost 50 years, and we look forward to the next 50 years of innovation, service, and community.
IN EARLY 2020, THE CENTER ANNOUNCED OUR THREE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN, a plan that charts a bold vision of The Center’s future. This plan, created from feedback from over 2,000 community members, volunteers, staff, and stakeholders, is our “North Star” and outlines our plans and impactful work to serve our growing and diverse community. We created a new Mission and Vision Statement and, with great intention, named our Values, Strategies, and Objectives. We are excited to provide you a recap of our Plan, and focus on two key components: Quality Valued and Community’s Center.

VALUES
- **Dignity** – Building pride, self-respect, and mutual-respect in everyone.
- **Inclusion** – Welcoming and serving all members of our community.
- **Compassion** – Caring about the needs of others and supporting them from a place of kindness and willingness to help.
- **Respect** – Meeting, listening to, and acknowledging our community on its own terms; honoring each as a whole person.
- **Equity & Equality** – Advocating for and intentionally reducing barriers to fair treatment, access, opportunity, and advancement for all our community members, inside and outside our Center.

STRATEGIES
- **Diversity** – Embrace, promote, and support our community’s rich diversity in our leadership, programs, and membership.
- **Services** – Provide critical life and health services.
- **Support** – Support our community members through all stages of life, including coming out, transitioning, and supporting their family and friends.
- **Wellness** – Enhance the quality of life and wellness of our community at all stages of life with programs and events.
- **Community** – Empower community, develop leaders, advocate for social justice, and celebrate community.

OBJECTIVES
- **Critical Services** – Maintain our critical health and social-support services for the most vulnerable populations; expand to include these services for currently underserved and disengaged communities.
- **Essential Support** – Grow our high-quality programs that promote individual wellness, quality of life, and building community across identities and populations; intentionally develop comprehensive opportunities and access points along the entire life journey of a diverse LGBTQ community.
- **Quality Valued** – Measure success at The Center by the quality of the experience for clients, volunteers, donors, and staff.
- **Robust Engagement** – Heighten efforts to increase the number of LGBTQ people engaging with The Center.
- **Community’s Center** – Reimagine and prepare to expand the current Hillcrest location to build a forward-looking, contemporary, multi-use, multi-building Center for the San Diego Region’s LGBTQ Community.
During the pandemic, we dreamed of improving our main Center facility to be more welcoming, clean, and safe for everyone in our community. Today, those changes have happened or are in motion!

**IMPROVEMENTS THIS YEAR INCLUDE:**

- Staff hiring is at an all-time high for The Center to better serve our LGBTQ community and ensure that our programs and services are available, and can expand, for the most vulnerable populations.

- As we emerge from the pandemic and our mostly-virtual services, we need increased feedback about our clients and community’s current needs and are creating direct feedback loops and surveys to get this valuable information.

- The Center’s main facility has installed a new state-of-the-art HVAC system to provide the safest air to the entire building.

- We are in the process of lobby upgrades including new flooring, new LED lighting, custom welcome station, new paint, new furniture for clients waiting for appointments, and flat screen TVs featuring Center information and events.

- The Center’s heart, the main Auditorium, is in process of receiving upgrades including new flooring throughout, new sound system with wireless microphones, a wall-mounted touch screen for system navigation, and the ability to tie into the hearing loop to enhance those with T-Coil technology in assisted hearing devices.

- Restrooms on the main level have been transformed by upgrades and renovations including tile, paint, new fixtures, and more.

- Sunburst Youth Housing Project renovations include a new roof, exterior patching and stucco paint coating, new emergency doors, and replaced 43 single-pane windows that will secure the building against wind, water, noise, and pollution.

To learn more about The Center’s Three-Year Strategic Plan, visit thecentersd.org/strategic-plan. To provide feedback, please email comments to comments@thecentersd.org.
As the COVID-19 pandemic is still impacting our daily lives, The Center continues its hybrid model of virtual and in-person services. We found that as need increases, we are able to meet it and are proud that, in fiscal year 2021, The Center provided 80,424 service visits to clients and community.

These Numbers In Action are a snapshot of our service numbers, programs, and interactions during this Fiscal Year. Each visit represents help, connection, safety, and security to someone in need and shows that at The Center, whether virtually or in-person, we welcome and value every member of the LGBTQ community.

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**Service Visits**

80,424

**HIV Tests**

221

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**Food Programs**

15,636

Food Service Visits

Includes our twice-a month food bank, grocery gift cards, holiday food (turkeys/ham), non-perishable food deliveries, Nourishing The Community meal partnerships, and meals provided to Sunburst clients.

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**AIDS Drug Assistance Program Enrollment:**

175

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“I attend The Center’s HIV+ support group, but was in Mexico taking care of my mother during COVID and I missed my doctor’s appointment in the U.S. The Center helped me fill out a special assistance form so I could get my medication sent to me. I was so relieved!”
Condoms distributed at in-person events: 2,444

Face Masks distributed: 2,227

Youth Service Visits: 2,853
Includes South Bay Youth Center, Hillcrest Youth Center, TransYouth, Youth Queer Leadership Council

I joined The Center’s Youth Middle School Group Zoom a few weeks ago — I was shy at first, but now I have a place to be myself, talk with others like myself, and know I am not alone.

Clients connected to PrEP: 1,313
Includes enrollment, referrals through HIV testing, and online education and referrals

Emergency Referrals and Resources: 3,208

Scan to watch our One-Year of COVID-19 video from March 2021!

I am a 60-year old man and The Center gave me my first ever computer. Now I can attend Zoom meetings and connect with friends and family.

Virtual Support and Discussion Groups: 1,257
Includes Virtual Support and Discussion Groups, and those through Behavioral Health Services (BHS)

Log-ins/Attendees 7,612
Behavioral Health Services (BHS):

**4,938**

Includes individual video and phone sessions, and attendees at group sessions

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Youth Housing Service Visits:

**2,453**

Includes Housing Our Youth, Golden Hall, Sunburst Youth Housing Project, and all other housing services for youth

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Free gender-affirming binders and tuckers distributed:

**67**

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"I made a simple inquiry to The Center’s Project TRANS and my life changed — they gave me the strength and resources to start my transitioning process and you can’t imagine the weight off my shoulders. I can finally be me!"

---

COVID-19 Tests in The Center’s parking lot:

**398**

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"I came to The Center for the food bank and found it was a polling location too. I walked home to get my son so he could vote for the first time. They helped us eat and helped us vote!"

---

Community Member outreach through Voter and Census advocacy:

**10,692**
San Diego is experiencing a housing crisis and many in our LGBTQ community are experiencing housing insecurity or homelessness. 40% of youth who are unsheltered identify as LGBTQ, and we know that their lives, as well those of LGBTQ adults, are significantly harder, and that real disparities exist in housing for our community. The COVID-19 pandemic has only exacerbated this issue and our Referral and Resource Phone Line, one of our Emergency Services during the pandemic, has received an overwhelming number of calls from community members looking for help.

Whether we are responding to an LGBTQ senior facing an unaffordable rent increase, a young LGBTQ person who has been kicked out of their home, or an LGBTQ adult living in their car because they have lost their job and housing, The Center has made a difference for our community members when they really need it. During the pandemic, The Center has given out nearly $141,000 in rental relief, and we have continued to advocate for more affordable and permanent supportive housing, more LGBTQ-inclusive emergency housing, wraparound services, bolder rental protections, and more resources for rental relief, no matter one’s immigration status.

In FY21, we’ve added to our cutting-edge Housing Continuum and doubled our Permanent Supportive Housing program to include housing for LGBTQ adults, couples, and families. Many programs include case management, connection to healthcare, mental health services, benefits enrollment, HIV testing, life skills training, educational and employment support, and much more. We’ve also expanded our case management and professional mental health staff to work with our community members facing homelessness.

We believe that every person deserves a home and will continue to do the work right here in our community to create housing programs and resources until that dream is realized. If you are interested in information about our Housing Services or to support, contact housing@thecentersd.org.

Programs include:

**PERMANENT & SUPPORTIVE HOUSING**

- **Sunburst Youth Housing Project** — safe and supportive housing for homeless youth between 18-24, with a special focus on LGBTQ and youth living with HIV
- **Kariibu** — scattered-site permanent housing for those 18 and older
- **North Park Senior Apartments** — San Diego’s first LGBTQ-affirming affordable senior complex where The Center provides on-site case management and support services to the residents.

**EMERGENCY HOUSING & SUPPORT SERVICES**

- **LGBTQ Safe S.T.A.Y.** — an overnight Emergency Housing program for LGBTQ youth currently open seven nights a week
- **Homelessness Prevention & Diversion** — designed to assist individuals and families in the County who are facing housing instability or are unhoused
- **Project Compassion** — a tangible, action-based program that offers direct supportive resources for those experiencing homelessness

**OTHER**

- **Host Home Program** — identifies, screens, and trains community members known to youth 18-24 who are willing to host them in their homes
- **Family Reunification Program** — seeks to reconnect LGBTQ youth with their families, while all receive counseling and supportive services

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“I called The Center as I had an accident, couldn’t work, and the funds to rent my single room were dwindling. The Center linked me with United Way for immediate assistance, and when I let them know I am a veteran, they connected me with Veterans Village San Diego (VVSD) for more sustainable housing. I don’t know where I would be without The Center.”
**FISCAL YEAR 2021 Financial Statement**

**ASSETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>JUNE 30, 2021 (unaudited)</th>
<th>JUNE 30, 2020 (audited)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>5,495,692</td>
<td>2,893,386</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>95,982</td>
<td>361,604</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants and contracts receivable</td>
<td>911,365</td>
<td>1,232,888</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
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<td>98,885</td>
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<td>Fixed assets, net</td>
<td>4,988,243</td>
<td>5,229,116</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endowment funds</td>
<td>842,759</td>
<td>650,673</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deposits</td>
<td>12,150</td>
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</table>

**Total Assets**

$12,420,349 $10,478,702

**LIABILITIES**

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<tr>
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<th>JUNE 30, 2021 (unaudited)</th>
<th>JUNE 30, 2020 (audited)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>198,357</td>
<td>52,256</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accrued expenses</td>
<td>429,057</td>
<td>464,991</td>
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<td>Deferred revenue</td>
<td>92,741</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accrued interest</td>
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<td>176,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notes payable</td>
<td>3,878,746</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paycheck Protection Program loan payable</td>
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</table>

**Total Liabilities**

$4,786,901 $5,437,015

**NET ASSETS**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Net Assets</td>
<td>$7,633,448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$5,041,687</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

$12,420,349 $10,478,702

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**WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM**

- Government Grants 40%
- Individual Gifts 35%
- Foundation Grants 11%
- Corporate Grants 1%
- Other Income 5%
- Paycheck Protection Program Grant 8%

**WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES**

- Programs & Services 82%
- Management 9%
- Fundraising 9%

Eighty-two cents* of every dollar donated to The Center funds vital programs and services.

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*These figures are based on unaudited numbers; audited financials will be available on The Center’s website in December 2021.
FISCAL YEAR 2021

Demographics

It is an explicit goal of all Center programs to be inclusive and representative of the diversity found in the San Diego community. Honoring, promoting, and celebrating our community’s amazing diversity are central organizing principles for The Center, as well as part of our Vision Statement.
Like so many organizations, during the pandemic, The Center has been on a journey of introspection as to how we can emerge from this pandemic as an even stronger champion for our communities. Over the past fiscal year, The Center has expanded its offerings to better serve the beautiful diversity of our LGBTQ community. Discussion and Support Groups available via Zoom.

**THE YOUTH QUEER LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**

The Center’s Youth Services staff created and launched The Youth Queer Leadership Council, a three-year leadership development program for youth comprised of three youth cohorts based on age, 12-13, 14-18, 19-24 and centers youth of color. The youth will learn valuable leadership, empowerment and advocacy skills, and this cutting-edge program will offer a parent or guardian component increasing family acceptance. These groundbreaking programs are how we at The Center invest in and grow the next generation of LGBTQ leaders. Contact HYC@thecentersd.org.

“"This support group has given me a community I never knew I needed. I felt really alone and never in my life thought I’d meet so many others like me. I’ve never felt so whole, happy, and connected to others as I do now.""

**TRAINING INSTITUTE**

The San Diego LGBT Community Center is proud of our new Training Institute and that we are San Diego’s leading provider of high-quality, professional trainings to assist a variety of organizations, businesses, and social services strengthen their knowledge about and skills in working with the LGBTQ community. We are grateful for the opportunities to educate and enlighten about the diversity and power of our amazing LGBTQ community, along with how to best serve and respect LGBTQ people.

""The trainer provided space for an excellent, open group discussion on the use of pronouns and how to address topics that may arise in the workplace regarding sexual orientation and gender identity."

""I learned skills in supporting LGBTQ community, such as the importance of pronouns. Also, some changes we can make in our office to help our LGBTQ community feel safe and welcome.""
LESBIAN CAFÉ

Join us as we create a welcoming community for women 50+ to connect, talk, and make new friends. This virtual meeting space is designed for you and by you. For information and topics, email seniors@thecentersd.org.

BLACK SERVICES

The Center is proud to announce the creation of our Black Services Program that will provide dynamic programming and direct services for the Black LGBTQ community. In addition to social events, community connection, and Support and Discussion Groups, community members will be able to receive medical and non-medical case management, information, and referrals to additional resources, including HIV testing and PrEP navigation, and more. This crucial program will be run by our full-time Black Services Program Coordinator, with support from our Services Integration team.

The Center’s Black LGBTQ Community Advisory Committee (BLCAC), launched in 2019, has moved forward on a series of priorities to better serve the Black LGBTQ community, including creating this dedicated Black Services Program. We are incredibly grateful for their leadership and to every single Black community member who shared feedback and dialogued with us over the last two years. We look forward to continuing to build this program, together and we know there is much more work to do to support and serve our San Diego Black LGBTQ community so that every person feels and knows that they are welcomed, valued, and supported. For ways to get involved at The Center, details on specific services and programming within Black Services, as well as external resources for the Black LGBTQ community, email comments@thecentersd.org.

THE 2ND AC+ VILLAGE

A program to support older adults living with HIV to enhance their well-being, social engagement, and improving their ability to access support services through utilizing the Village Model. This is the first program of its kind in the United States that has been applied to people living with HIV. The Center is proud to be a part of this project in partnership with UCSD. To join or for more information, contact seniors@thecentersd.org.

I am originally from Africa and moved to California over a year ago. I’ve always felt excluded from LGBTQ Centers and thought of them as white-only spaces. I took a leap of faith and decided to attend The Center’s “Let’s Talk Tuesdays” event. I was excited to be in community with other Black queer people and learn about all of the different resources and services that The Center has to offer.
Ensure the LGBTQ community was counted in the 2020 Census

Our first major campaign was ensuring that everyone had participated in the 2020 Census. Initial response rates showed a risk of low participation, therefore losing billions of dollars in federal funds, and limiting our political representation. The Center helped increase the response rate to 73.9%, the largest response rate of any county in the state:

- Sent over 100,000 text messages and held over 6,000 phone conversations to Center supporters reminding them to participate
- Held online trainings with over 1,000 participants and connected with over 200,000 followers over social media

Reimagining Public Safety

We continued our role as a founding member of the Coalition for Police Accountability and Transparency (CPAT), “a group of diverse community, faith and labor stakeholders who are committed to working for justice, accountability, divestment from policing, and investment in non-police alternatives.” This work is critical to our community when we see statistics like these in San Diego:

- LGBTQ people were arrested without a warrant at a 54% higher rate than their non-LGBTQ peers.
- The highest search rates are for Black and Latino/a/x community members who police perceive to be LGBTQ.
- LGBTQ people had force used against them during a police stop at a 33% higher rate than their non LGBTQ peers.

The Center is working closely with CPAT to strongly advocate implementing concrete and transparent policy changes for the San Diego Police Department, including more restrictive use of force policies, banning consent searches and stops for equipment and traffic violations, and addressing anti-Black, anti-Latinx, and anti-LGBTQ bias in policing.

Ensure the LGBTQ community turned out to vote, and could vote at The Center

Voter engagement is a core component of our work and it is important that we maintain our status as a polling location to ensure that our LGBTQ community members are empowered to vote in a space where they feel welcomed and respected. Leading up to the 2020 election, we were able to:

- Attempted to contact 41,216 voters via text, phone call, mail or email, and complete 5,476 conversations with voters who planned to vote
- 96% of the voters we spoke to voted in the Presidential Election
- Welcomed over 1,200 voters to The Center to cast their ballot

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- Sent over 100,000 text messages and held over 6,000 phone conversations to Center supporters reminding them to participate
- Held online trainings with over 1,000 participants and connected with over 200,000 followers over social media

Ensure the Center’s values were present in City and County FY22 budgets

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, The Center, along with our coalition partners, advocated for services in the FY22 budgets at the City of San Diego and County of San Diego. Milestones include:

CITY OF SAN DIEGO

- Advocated for and won the full funding of San Diego City Libraries, and the Commission on Police Practices
- Advocated for and secured an additional $100 Million in Emergency Rental Assistance

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

- Advocated for and won:
  - Full funding for a Syringe Services Program, providing an additional tool to end new HIV transmissions
  - $5 Million from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for LGBTQ affirming Housing and support services
  - The creation of the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs and the Department of Homeless Solutions
  - $5 Million for the Immigrant Rights Legal Defense program and $11 Million for the expansion of the Mobile Crisis Response Teams

I brought my grandma to vote for the first time at The Center — she is disabled so they wheeled out the voting device to their car. It was also touching to come to vote together and we were so excited!
SIGNATURE EVENTS

The Center’s Signature Events are a great way to make new friends, connect with community, and also support vital programs and services that The Center provides for our LGBTQ community. For information and updates on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our events, visit thecentersd.org/signatureevents.

AIDS WALK & RUN SAN DIEGO (AWSD)
September 2020

This four-day event brought community together for San Diego’s largest HIV/AIDS fundraising event that remembers those who have been lost to the disease and raises funds to support the more than 18,000 San Diegans living with HIV/AIDS.

DINING OUT FOR LIFE® SAN DIEGO (DOFL)
April 2021

Each year, thousands of San Diegans Dine Out to Fight HIV in this international fundraising event. Last year’s DOFL event saw restaurants and bars across San Diego County pledge to donate a percentage of that day’s food and liquor sales to benefit HIV/AIDS services and prevention programs at The Center. Many locations had reduced capacity, so for safety of diners and to help our local restaurants suffering during the pandemic, we extended this event to four days including breakfast, lunch, dinner, drinks, dessert, and more!

This past year required us to reimagine three of our Signature Events, but still hosting them with as much fun, impact, and community spirit as ever!
THE HARVEY MILK DIVERSITY BREAKFAST

May 2021
Established by Nicole Murray Ramirez, Robert Gleason, and Dr. Delores Jacobs in 2009, The Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast is usually held in-person with over 1,000 diverse attendees. This 13th annual celebration morphed into a free virtual community event featuring a memorial to influential civil rights activist Harvey Milk, appearances by civic and community leaders, spoken word performances by youth, thanks to our community partners, and a pronoun tutorial. Proceeds benefitted the social services programs of The Center.

TANTRUMS & TIARAS

February
Tantrums & Tiaras is an event like no other! A high-quality spoof of beauty pageants complete with extravagant costumes, divine entertainers, and a “talent” showcase. Local companies sponsor male contestants, none of whom have any pageant experience, as they compete to be crowned the next community Queen! In collaboration with Mo’s Universe Group, it’s an evening of wigs, glitter, and hilarity, all for a great cause! Join the fun and cheer for your local favorites. Proceeds benefit the programs and services of The Center. Join us in 2022 for this exciting and entertaining event!

PACHANGA DE FRIDA (HAPPY BIRTHDAY FRIDA)

June
Each year, The Center celebrates the birthday of Frida Kahlo, commemorating the legendary life of one of the most influential Mexican painters of the mid-twentieth century. Guests enjoy live music, multiple art exhibits by local Latin@ artists and vendors, a Frida look-alike contest, great food, and tequila! Proceeds benefit Latin@ Services at The Center. Stay tuned for more information for 2022!
## Thank you to our Center Donors

The San Diego LGBT Community Center gratefully acknowledges those who gave between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021.

### $100,000+
- Gene Burkard Estate
- Evelyn & Walter Haas Jr. Fund
- Marguerite Casey Foundation
- David Mizener and Arturo Carrillo
- Arthur G. Rossiter Estate
- The California Wellness Foundation
- The San Diego Foundation
- United Way of San Diego County
- Jeffrey E. White Trust
- Jay Wilpolt Estate

### $50,000-$99,999
- San Diego Seniors Community Foundation

### $20,000-$49,999
- Blue Shield of California
- Hervey Family Fund
- Dylan Jacobs
- Brian A. McCarthy Foundation Inc.
- Price Philanthropies Foundation
- Rodeki Foundation
- State Voices
- Tides Foundation
- US Bank
- ViV Healthcare
- Wells Fargo Foundation

### $10,000-$19,999
- AIDS Healthcare Foundation
- Robert L. Battenberg Estate
- Timothy J. Cassidy
- CenterLink
- Randy D. Clark and Dr. Thomas Maddox
- Amy Corton and Carl Eibl
- Costco Wholesale Charitable Contributions
- Cox Communications
- Zaneta Encarnacion and Michael Encarnacion
- Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation
- Oliv Flück
- Roger Frey
- Front Runners & Walkers
- Ignite Charitability at United Charitable
- Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank
- Janssen
- Mel Katz and Linda L. Katz
- Dr. Warren P. Klam
- John R. Kudela
- Manpower San Diego
- Nordstrom
- Dr. William Mathews
- Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest
- San Diego City Firefighters Local 145

### $5,000-$9,999
- Absolut Vodka
- Blair Alexander and Dan Belair
- Joseph T. Anton and Alexander Fazekas-Paul
- Steven Austin
- John Auzin Trust
- James Barker
- Barrio Star
- Daniel Buken and Jack Mulder
- Classy
- Et Voila! French Bistro
- Justin J. File and Christopher M. Briggs
- Gilead Sciences
- David A. Guibser
- Howie Price Initiative
- HP
- HP, Inc. Matching Gifts
- Spencer H. McClymont and Daniel Mendes
- Edward Miller and Michael Morehead
- Nicholas E. Moede
- JP Morgan Chase Foundation
- Robert E. Nelson
- Passion Planner
- Perkins Coie Foundation
- Pride Resource Partners, LLC
- Priority Ambulance
- Qualcomm Inc.
- Re-Elect Senator Atkins 2020
- Room & Board
- Allison Rossett
- Joyce Rowland and Pamela Morgan
- Rosemary Shadok and Thomas F. Shadek
- Starbucks Foundation
- Frank Stefano
- Jan A. Steinert and Richard Bosse
- Todd F. Stevens and Hon. David Rubin
- Sycuan Resort & Casino
- Josep Torroella Trust
- Uptown Tavern

### $2,500-$4,999
- 3Q Digital
- American Water Charitable Foundation, Inc.
- James D. Anderson and True Ryndes
- Anonymous
- Catherine Bowyer and Margaret J. Willoughby
- Alan Brimble and Dr. Richard L. Jones
- Ted Gadawaski Callam
- William L. Carrick
- Randall L. Clark and Michael F. Clark
- Cowboy Star
- Anna M. Curren
- Dale Dubach, Chaz Weathers, and John Osgood
- Equality Alliance of San Diego County
- Russell K. Fox and Thomas B. Schaide
- Laura Galinson
- Robert H. Gleason and Marc Matys
- John Granata
- Catherine L. Hemphill
- Hillcrest Pharmacy
- Dana C. Hook and Christine R. Murphy
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 569
- Dana Jacoviello
- Dr. Dexter A. Jensen and Robert Henderson
- Jeffrey Jordan
- Kafele J. Khalfani
- David Kruffinusz and Nancy Kruffinusz
- Paul Marra and Joel D. Valenzuela
- Brer Marsh
- Elizabeth Mayercin
- MO’s Universe Group
- North County Lifeline, Inc.
- Scott Peters and Lynn Gorguze
- Ponce’s Mexican Restaurant
- Dr. Pierre G. Rivet and Michael Wolf
- Geraldine N. Rochino and Amy Rochino
- Raymond Rodriguez and Lee K. Landeen
- San Diego County Building Trades Council
- Family Housing Corporation
- SEIU Local 221
- Sempra Employee Giving Network
- Dr. David M. Smith and Dr. AsherLev T. Santos
- Kent H. Swedell and Mark Cujak
- Shelly Tregembo
- Nick Tseng
- Philip Unitt
- Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians
- Andrea L. Vila
- Mitchell J. Williamson

### $1,500-$2,499
- ACLU of San Diego & Imperial Counties
- Charles M. Aldrich
- Bank of the West
- Bank of America Foundation
- Sandra L. Berry and Donia Smith
- Alex Burke
- David Catton
The Old Globe
Dr. Joel F. Trambley
Scott Tucker
UC San Diego AVRC Antiviral Research Center
UC San Diego LGBT Resource Center
Brian Urban
John G. Venekamp and Clifford N. Schireson
Axel L. Vogt
Scott C. Willford and Grant M. Reeder
Anne B. Wilson
Janet Winder-Steed and Anne Winder-Steed
James Ziegler

$1,000 - $1,499
American International Group
Stephen M. Baker
Bank of America Matching Gift
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James Kane
Hon. Christine T. Kehoe and Julie Warren
Ronald Kwok
Justin Lee
Marc Lewis
Daniel H. Lo
Patrick J. Loose
Mickey MacIntyre
Mariposa Homemade Ice Cream

Michaela Martin
Amanda Matheson
Gary McIntire
David J. Miles and David R. Higgins
Travis Miller and Austin Hallgren
N.E.S.T.
Dr. Mark C. Niblack
Ortega's, A Mexican Bistro
Steven Ozburn
Parkhouse Eatery
Becky Petitt
Beki Picus
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Sean Riley and Allison Riley
Robert Barile
Paula Rosenblatt and Linda Boo Briggs
Michael S. Roy
Russell D. Roybal
Warren R. Ruis
Stephen N. Russell
The Sager Family Charitable Fund

82 cents* of every dollar donated to The Center funds vital programs and services.

Salt & Straw
San Diego County Democratic Party
Mark A. Sanbower and Paul Cooley
John Schweizer
Scooter Brew, Inc. / Hillcrest Brewing Company
Gene M. Scott and Paul R. Sussman
SDSU Research Foundation
Steven J. Shulman and Troy Kahle
Sisters Pizza
Micaela Siurano
Jess Spahnower
Dr. Stephen Spector
St. Paul's Cathedral
William S. Stalker
Barrio Station
Sunset Roller Club
Team Leininger Trust Fund
Mark Thomas and Kenneth Colina
Ashley N. Tipton
Michael L. Tobin and Mark R. Williams
Dr. Shaun Travers, James Andrews, and Bryce Tomecek
Richard M. Valdez and James T. Wood
Diego Velasco
Lawrence Wood and Rodney Love
Marge Wurgel

$500 - $999
Jeremy D. Addis-Mills
Angela Adu-Badu
Alex Ahumada
Linda Cory Allen and John E. McCarthy
Patrick Anderson and Lester Olson
Apple Matching Gifts

*These figures are based on unaudited numbers; audited financials will be available on The Center’s website in December 2021.
Thank You to all our wonderful volunteers for your hard work and dedication.

The Center is fortunate to have an amazing team of dedicated volunteers. Despite our Volunteer Program being on hold due to the pandemic, we celebrate their generous spirit and look forward to welcoming them back. The Center gratefully acknowledges those who have volunteered from July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021 and the total number of active, periodic, and episodic volunteers. For information on the volunteer program, visit us at www.thecentersd.org/join-us/volunteer/.

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers for your hard work and dedication.

From the board of directors and staff of The Center, we sincerely thank all of our donors who help us accomplish our mission. Every donor and every dollar matters. The previously listed names include all donors who contributed at least $500 during the 2021 fiscal year (July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021). We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this information and sincerely apologize for any misspelling or incorrect information found on this donor list. If we made any errors, please contact development@thecentersd.org or call 619.692.2077 x247.

Estate/Planned Giving

Planned gifts honor the past and shape our future. The Stonewall Society recognizes donors that have guaranteed The Center’s future with an irrevocable gift through a trust, bequest, or other planned gift. To receive additional information about planned gifts or to notify The Center of a gift included in your estate planning, please contact Ian Johnson, Director of Development, at ijohnson@thecentersd.org or 619.692.2077 x247.

Total number of volunteers: 255

Total number of volunteer hours: 2,364

Monetary value of volunteer hours: $67,469

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shawn Abeynaik</th>
<th>Jackie Bryant</th>
<th>Alejandra Dominguez Lopez</th>
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<td>Chris Abeyta</td>
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<td>Sharie Abrego</td>
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<td>Stephanie Dunbar</td>
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<td>Cecelia Caldwell</td>
<td>Samaya Elder</td>
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<td>Lorena Chavarin</td>
<td>Lorraine Louise Francisco</td>
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<td>Mark Chen</td>
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<td>Maddy Goodman</td>
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<td>Patricia Gordon</td>
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<td>Cynthia Cota Ponce</td>
<td>Michaela Griffin</td>
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<td>Jose Gutierrez</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gavin Bartholomew</td>
<td>Brennan Crowe</td>
<td>Matt Hammond</td>
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Kristin Bauman          | Kal Crowe (Wilson) | Marty Hancock             |
Adrian Belmes           | Cat Crowley       | Cody Hanford              |
Janelle Bensel          | Todd Dameron      | William Harrer            |
Holliann Bergin         | Zachary Davina    | Lori Harrison             |
Nicolette Biagi         | Jewel Davis       | Cathy Hemphill            |
Sara Bohjanen           | Victor de Cos     | Horacio Hernandez         |
Steven Bolin            | Yvette Deas       | Ruth Hinckfuss            |
Patricia Boman          | Anthony DeBenedetto| derek howard             |
Michael Bowler          | Larisa Del Castillo| Crystal Hsu              |
Christopher Boyle       | JD Del Rosario    | Jason Huang               |
Rachel Bradford         | Edmond Delasalle  | Jack Hughes               |
Liz Brekke              | Alan Des Roches   | Caroline Ibarra           |
Jacqueline Bridenbaker  | kendra Deselms    | Marlissa Ivers            |
Matt Brown              | Ria Diddee        | Deila Jacobo              |
Jim Browning            | Craig Doede       | Ari Jacome Lopez          |
Tony Brumfield          | Cole Dominguez    | Kevin Jimenez             |
THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS

Jenny Johnson
Brittany Jones
Christa Jones
Jensine Junus
Tatjana Juskov
Michael Kaiser
John Keasler
Benjamin Kennedy
Kyle Klatt
Brandon LaFoy
Dylan Landon
Nikki Lane
Jo Laurent
Kayla Lawhorn
Nicole Le
Elaine Lewis

Megan Nelson
Mark Newsome
Grace Nguyen
Jordan Nguyen
Kyle Okamura
Eduardo Ortega
Natalie Ortiz
Albert Padilla
Danielle Parral
Rena Pazienza
Aiza Pedregon-Abbott
Jamie Pelusi
Krystal Penick
Adrienne Perez
Orlando Perrera
Jayme Peterson

Michael Searfoss
James Sharkey
Abe Shklar
Kathleen Short
Emma Simons-Araya
Dana Smith
Adam Snyder
Christopher Spurling
Jenna Stelmar
Kevin Stewart
Sierra Stillwater
Maddie Sumner
Kent Swedell
Ren Tannenbaum
Jennifer Tasarz
John Tibbals

This is a great place helping everyone.
I was proud to volunteer there.

Colleen Leyden
Stella Li
Jake Limon
Oscar Linn
Elijah Liu
Edwin Lohr
Vanessa Lopez
Luis Macias
Fabian Maes
Zaqia Mahler Salinas
Amanda Majarian
Edwina Marchenko
Zoe Marks
Kristen Martin
Alli Martinez
Edward Matthews
Angelle Mua
Marc Maynard
Taylor McBride
Andrew McElvein
Grace McGuire
Paris McKinnell
Xzavior McNeal
Daniel Medina
Jaime Menchaca
Isabel Mesa
Wendolyn Molina
Coyote Moon
Matt Morschcheck
Christian Mota
Leo Mrad
Ladan Nazari
Kevin Nelson

Cheryl-Anne Phillips
Guilherme Pinto
Alyssa Puente
Brie Purcell
Ramona Rae
Kaiya Rainbolt
Sandra Ramirez
Ladarius Regala Bi-Mia Reid
Jennifer Restle
James Riggins
Brian Ringer
Al Rios
Hailey Rittershofer
Jake Roark
Abigail Robles
Renzo Rocchegiani
Daniel Rodriguez
Joe Rodriguez
Michelle Rodriguez
Barbara Rodriguez
Celeste Romano
Ryan Ronan
Valerie Rosas
Neil Rothschild
Hailey Rowe
Alfredo Ruiz
John Sabourin
Lem Salao
Roger Sanchez
Albert Santibanez
Sabira Sarwari
Maureen Scahill Cantrella

Nancy Toba-Laba
Kate Tolan
Camille Torre
Christopher Tran
Zachary Tripplett
Angela Trooka
Lee Turner
Brian Urban
Christina Valdez
Ray Valenzuela
Kai Vang
Daisy Varela
Tamra Ward
April Wateska
James Weber
Amanda Weinberger
Bridget Weisz
Diego Wells
Jeremy Wells
Nic White
Steve Wichmann
Elia Wiese
Chris Williams
Lorenz Williams
Greg Wilson
Nik Wilson
Randy Wolter
Silas Wolz
Susan Wong
Rujia Xie
Hannah Xu
Larry Yip
Emily Yost

For more information on volunteering, contact volunteer@thecentersd.org.
In 1971 our world was a very different place. Being “out” simply wasn’t an option for many. Just being a member of the LGBTQ community could be dangerous, and there was no place to turn for help. We are proud of the history of The Center’s service and the strides it continues to make to be a more inclusive, welcoming, and safe space for the entire diverse LGBTQ community.

Originally just an answering machine in a borrowed closet that served as a lifeline for those looking for compassionate connection, it is now one of the largest and most vibrant LGBTQ Community Centers in the nation. We provide our community with more than 80,424 direct service visits each year with programs including Behavioral Health Services, Black Services, Family Services, Latino/a/x Services, Men’s and Women’s Services, Seniors 50+ and better, Transgender, Nonbinary, and Youth Services. We also offer Support Groups, Advisory Councils, Community Engagement and Outreach Programs, a continuum of Housing Services, and more.

THE CENTER’S PROGRAMS & MILESTONES

1971-1972
The initial 1971-1972 Planning Committee for what would become The Center included Patricia Byers, Thom Carey, Patricia Cluchey, Peggy Heathers, Jess Jessop, Clint Johnson, Bernie Michels, George Murphy, Jerry Peterson, Gary Rees, John Senter, Jerry White, John Eberly, Gary Gulley and Cynthia Lawrence. The Chair of the Planning Committee was Bernie Michels

1973 The Center for Social Services was incorporated as a 501c3

1980 The Center for Social Services became the Lesbian and Gay Men’s Community Center

1981 Diagnosis of the first case of HIV disease in San Diego County

1998 The Behavioral Health Services RVTIP program received credentialing, and became one of the first same-sex domestic violence programs in the nation

1999 The Lesbian and Gay Men’s Community Center moved from Normal Street to Centre Street and began plans for renovations

2000 The Hillcrest Youth Center opened its doors and became a critical resource for LGBTQ youth in San Diego

2001 Dr. Delores A. Jacobs named interim Executive Director June 2001 and is selected as Executive Director in January 2002. Jacobs serves a historic, 17-year tenure as the longest serving chief executive, and retired on June 30, 2018

2001 The David Bohnett Cyber Center opened

2001 The Public Policy department was established after the No on Prop. 22 campaign

2002 The Lesbian and Gay Men’s Center was renamed The San Diego Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center
The Center began working with Community Housing Works to establish an LGBTQ-welcoming affordable senior housing project in San Diego in 2004. The Center Advocacy Project was established, a nonpartisan 501(c)4, whose mission is to secure equal civil and human rights for the LGBTQ and allied communities through public education and issue advocacy in 2013.

Latin@ Services was established, providing a culturally-affirming drop-in space, support groups, and social programs for LGBTQ Latin@s and their families in 2004. The Center Advocacy Project was established, a nonpartisan 501(c)4, whose mission is to secure equal civil and human rights for the LGBTQ and allied communities through public education and issue advocacy in 2013.

Sunburst Youth Housing Project opened, providing supportive housing for 23 unhoused LGBTQ and HIV+ youth, ages 18-24 in 2006.

Family programming was re-established at The Center, providing programs and services for LGBTQ-headed families and those considering parenthood in 2007.

Senior Services and 50 and Better Together were established, providing important health, financial and social resources for LGBTQ seniors in 2003.

The Center became a monthly distribution site for the San Diego Food Bank in 2011.

The Women’s Resource Center was established, providing LBT women and their allies access to important health and social resources and referrals in 2003.

The Center began working with Community Housing Works to establish an LGBTQ-welcoming affordable senior housing project in San Diego in 2012.

Engage San Diego was established, forming a nonprofit network of local civil rights, social justice, health and environmental organizations focused on nonpartisan civic engagement in 2010.

The Wall of Honor was established, honoring community members and allies who have had a significant positive impact on the San Diego LGBTQ community in 2004.

Project TRANS was established to provide services designed specifically for San Diego’s transgender, nonbinary, and gender nonconforming community in 2013.

The Equal Rights Voters Program was established to encourage community-wide voter registration and full, non-partisan, participation in elections in 2008.

Nicole Murray Ramirez, Robert Gleason, Dr. Delores Jacobs, The San Diego LGBT Community Center, and a broad coalition of civic and business leaders established the first Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast. Since then it has grown to become one of the largest, most diverse events of its kind, bringing together more than 1,000 San Diegans annually in 2009.

Under the leadership of Dr. Delores Jacobs and Robert Gleason, The Community Leadership Council was established, bringing together more than 40 LGBTQ and allied community organizations each month to address the needs of the community in 2004.

The Benjamin F. Dillingham, III and Bridget Wilson LGBT Veterans Wall of Honor, first envisioned by Nicole Murray-Ramirez, and co-created by CEO Dr. Delores Jacobs, was established in 2012 to honor and celebrate LGBTQ veterans who have served our country in 2012.
2017
The Center’s Youth Services opened the South Bay Clubhouse, a weekly drop-in space for LGBTQ youth in Chula Vista, which in 2019 became South Bay Youth Center.

2017
At The Center’s 45th Anniversary Gala, a $2 million dollar matching campaign opportunity was announced.

2018
The Center Board announces selection of Caroline (Cara) Dessert, Esq. as the next Center Chief Executive Officer effective July 1, 2018.

2018
The #BeTheGeneration campaign launched, with the goal of ending new cases of HIV within a decade.

2018
The Center reaches $2 million goal with unprecedented community support, matching donors Ron Bowman, with his husband Stan Zukowfsky announce a second gift of $1.65 million to pay off mortgage for the Centre Street building in spring of 2018.

2019
The Center embarks on a Strategic Planning process, engaging a wide variety of community stakeholders to strive to serve our growing and diverse community and ensure that we maximize our organization’s resources to best continue to fulfill our mission in the years ahead.

2019
The South Bay Youth Center (SBYC) opens in Chula Vista to support LGBTQ youth 10-24 and their families in need of resources in South County.

2019
The Center expands its housing program to an entire housing continuum, including the new LGBT Safe S.T.A.Y. Program for LGBTQ youth.
In an effort to better serve the Black LGBTQ community, The Center held a Town Hall in 2019 for the Black LGBTQ community that led to initiatives including: the formation of the Black LGBTQ Community Advisory Committee; the creation and hosting of Brave Space—a peer-led discussion group; helping the San Diego Black LGBTQ Coalition to obtain its own 501(c)(3) status, serving as the fiscal agent, free of charge, for an interim period; provided training opportunities for Center board, staff, volunteers, and donors on anti-Black racism and on how to be better allies to the Black LGBTQ community; and the Center’s Board of Directors voted that, while welcome when unarmed and out of uniform, armed, uniformed law enforcement officer are not allowed at Center facilities and events, unless as a last resort or true emergency because uniformed presence can be a barrier to services for many LGBTQ people.

In 2021, as a next step in our commitment to the Black LGBTQ community, The Center announced the creation of a Black Services Program that will provide dynamic programming and direct services for the Black LGBTQ community including social events, community connection, Support and Discussion groups, medical and non-medical case management, information, and referrals to additional resources, including HIV testing and PrEP navigation, and more.

The Center’s Advocacy and Civic Engagement work includes the 2020 Elections and 2020 U.S. Census campaigns with outreach and dedicated and targeted campaigns to our community.

The Center launches its new website that is user-friendly, easy to navigate, and more intentionally showcases specific programs targeted to our LGBTQ community.

The Center closed its doors for in-person services due to the COVID-19 pandemic on March 20, 2020 and postponed two major fundraising events: Dining Out For Life® San Diego and The Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast. The Center is currently providing Emergency Services: Emergency Referral and Resource phone line, Behavioral Health Services via Zoom Healthcare, Individual Program Meetings and Check-Ins via Zoom, Virtual Support Groups, Critical Housing needs, Healthcare services including health care enrollment assistance and HIV testing, and Food Resources.

Marking the one-year of the COVID-19 pandemic, The Center holds a community ofrenda to honor those we lost.

The Sunburst Youth Housing Project, that also houses Safe S.T.A.Y. an overnight emergency housing program for LGBTQ youth, received much needed renovations including new windows, cool-flat roof system, exterior patching and paint.

The Center’s Youth Services staff created and launched The Youth Queer Leadership Council, a three-year leadership development program for youth comprised of three youth cohorts based on age, 12-13, 14-18, 19-24 and centers youth of color.

The Center launches the Training Institute providing high-quality, professional trainings to assist organizations strengthen their knowledge and skills in working with the LGBTQ community, as well as how to best serve and respect LGBTQ people.

2020

2020 The Center’s Advocacy and Civic Engagement work includes the 2020 Elections and 2020 U.S. Census campaigns with outreach and dedicated and targeted campaigns to our community.

2021

2021 The Center’s Youth Services staff created and launched The Youth Queer Leadership Council, a three-year leadership development program for youth comprised of three youth cohorts based on age, 12-13, 14-18, 19-24 and centers youth of color.

2021

2021 The Sunburst Youth Housing Project, that also houses Safe S.T.A.Y. an overnight emergency housing program for LGBTQ youth, received much needed renovations including new windows, cool-flat roof system, exterior patching and paint.

2021

2021 Marking the one-year of the COVID-19 pandemic, The Center holds a community ofrenda to honor those we lost.
I appreciate all that The Center has given and still actively gives, to the community at large. Many thanks to all who work there on behalf of some of the most vulnerable people in our county.

THE CENTER LOCATIONS

CENTRE STREET – HILLCREST

Mailing Address
PO Box 3357
San Diego, CA 92163

Street Address
3909 Centre Street
San Diego, CA 92103
Phone: 619.692.2077
Fax: 619.260.3092

Hours of Operation:
Monday-Friday 9am-9pm
Saturday 9am-7pm

HILLCREST YOUTH CENTER

1807 Robinson Ave, Suite 106
San Diego, CA 92103
Phone: 619.692.2077 x122

SUNBURST YOUTH HOUSING PROJECT

Phone: 619.692.2077 x124

Hours of Operation:
24 hours a day, 7 days a week

SOUTH BAY YOUTH CENTER

1180 3rd Avenue, Suite C1
Chula Vista, CA 91911
Phone: 619.692.2077 x212

REFERRAL AND EMERGENCY RESOURCE PHONE LINE
619.800.4252 from 9am-4pm
619.800.4216 from 4pm-9pm

The Center hours and locations have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
Please visit our website at www.thecentersd.org or call 619.692.2077 for more information.

The San Diego Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Community Center, Inc. (d.b.a., The Center) is one of the largest and most vibrant LGBTQ community centers in the nation. Functioning as the San Diego LGBTQ community’s anchor organization, The Center is led by an 11-member board of directors, employs more than 75 paid staff, and utilizes more than 1,200 community volunteers to achieve its twin goals of promoting LGBTQ health/wellness and human rights. The Center provides targeted programs and services to the full diversity of the San Diego LGBTQ community, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, transgender, nonbinary, immigrant, and HIV communities to the betterment of our entire San Diego region. Last year, The Center provided more than 80,424 direct service visits to San Diego community members, and through its events, activities, and advocacy, touched the lives of thousands more.