



# ANNUAL REPORT

THE SAN DIEGO LGBT COMMUNITY CENTER  
JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022







## 2021-2022 CENTER STAFF\*

Will Abshier  
Tanesha Adams  
Hannah Anew  
Shane Atrushi  
Bridgette Austin  
Mari Ayala  
Melissa Bailey  
Monica Banuelos  
Gustavo Banuelos  
Elisa Barnett  
Brany Barragan  
Karrah Bissett  
Jeremy Bloom  
Akemi Bonner  
Collin Boudreaux  
Eric Bowen  
Mel Cabardo  
Deja Cabrera  
Eva Callahan  
Ricardo Calleja  
Mardi Campbell  
Lee Carmack  
Steve Carroll  
Leo Cartier Jr.

Patricia Celaya  
Timo Cervantez  
Edgar Chavarin Ayala  
Daniel Cordero  
Raphael Craan  
Aliyah Crowder  
Jenny Crowe  
Jason Cuneo  
Beth Davenport  
Stacey De La Riva  
Caroline Dessert  
Jessica Diaz  
Arthur Doan  
Victor Esquivel  
Angie Fernandez  
Lenitha Fields  
Kim Fountain  
Ricardo Gallego  
Jared Godes  
Angel Gonzalez  
Elizabeth Green  
Ashleigh Green  
Christina Griffin-Jones  
Malek Guerbaoui

Pamuela Halliwell  
Matt Hammond  
Carter Hantula  
Jo Hawthorne  
Aaron Heier  
Gus Hernandez  
Cristina Hernandez  
Rebekah Hook-Held  
Lo Horst  
Crystal Hsu  
Orion Hudgins  
Josue Jimenez  
Ian Johnson  
Sabrina Johnson  
Shariyah Johnson  
Stevie Juarez  
Delio Ladron de Guevara  
Christina Laigo  
Daivon Lloyd  
Amanda Lopez  
Julian Lopez  
Alissa Mancilla  
Solana Mann  
Ezak Marquez

Kris Martin  
Prisila Martinez  
Chris Martinez  
Ibeth May  
Megan Meek  
Citlalli Mendoza  
Sarah Merk-Benitez  
Noah Mixon  
Rio Moncado  
Alicia Montellanos  
Luis Montero-Adams  
Yey Morales  
Alex Ordoubegian  
Natalie Ortiz Soria  
Alicia Pacelli  
Jacqueline Palmer  
Gustavo Perez  
Anita Ramirez  
Alberto Ramirez-Rosales  
Carolina Alcoser Ramos  
Matthew Reents  
Angela Reyes  
Celya Robles  
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Daniel Rubin  
Jesus Sanchez  
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Joseph Severino  
Shah Shepherd  
Rae Sheridan  
Natalia Siordia  
Isaac Snyder  
Francisco Soto  
Arturo Suarez Jr.  
Ashley Thomas  
Carolyn Tran  
Jasmine Tribble  
L Tuiletufuga  
Tiana Vargas  
Naya Velazco  
Prizila Vidal  
Dustin Walker  
Helen Weldeghiorgis  
Jeremy Wells  
Eric Wilson  
Rick-Arlo Yah Lira  
Jenna Zamohi

*\*The photo, as shown, does not include all staff. Staff listed includes all staff employed during FY22.*

## 2021-2022 CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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



**Zaneta Encarnacion**  
(She/Her/Hers)  
**Co-Chair**  
Chief of Staff, Office of the  
Superintendent/President,  
Southwestern College



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



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



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



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



**Dr. Kafele Khalfani,**  
Ed.D.  
(He/Him/His)  
Dean of Diversity,  
Smarty Pants LLC



**Bixby Marino-Kibbee**  
(They/Them/He/Him)  
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



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

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## 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 STATEMENT

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.

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

## DEAR CENTER COMMUNITY,

This was an incredible year in The Center's history! After pivoting to do our part in meeting the needs of our community during the COVID-19 pandemic, we successfully reopened your newly renovated Center. I am delighted to update you on some of our major accomplishments from this past fiscal year and welcome you back, after two long years, to Your Center!

We have always thought of The Center and all those who helped us to thrive as an organization of leaders, bringing new ideas forward, rolling up your sleeves to get the hard work done, leading groups, building community power, and so much more. This rich history of community involvement means that your contributions make up the stories that led to our amazing growth over the last 50 years. Together, we co-created one of the largest LGBTQ community centers in the world. Thanks to you, The Center has become a thriving organization that is the heart of San Diego's LGBTQ community.

Today, I see both the community resilience that built The Center as well as the hope and determination that will guide us into our next exciting chapter. The Center experienced unprecedented growth in recent years; from our origins as a group of volunteers trying to help those in crisis, today we are a \$12M organization with programming at five facilities across San Diego County. Yet, there's still more work to do to meet the growing needs of our community as we plan to empower and serve for generations to come.

Our vision is to build on our current growth trajectory to become one of the most impactful LGBTQ organizations in the world. A step toward that vision was made possible this year – in June, we received news that Maurice Thimot and Rust Rawnsley, a gay couple beloved by our community, left The Center a sizeable gift through The Stonewall Society, our planned giving program. Once all funds are received, their gift will be the largest donation in The Center's history! The Maurice Thimot and M. Rust Rawnsley Fund will be used to intentionally create spaces and programs for our community, with a special focus on seniors. We are so grateful to Maurice and Rust for the trust they placed in us, and we look forward to stewarding their generous gift.

Continuing our growth, after 22 years of renting space we purchased a new building that will be the future location of the Hillcrest Youth Center. While our doors were closed following COVID-19 protocols, we made important renovations to our Main Center building, a result of direct community feedback that focused on offering a more welcoming and vibrant Center. I was thrilled to host a celebratory Open House in May, welcoming back over 400 community members to see the renovated and modernized space!

As we lay the foundation for our vision of tremendous growth, to better meet the needs of our community, we are looking forward to an exciting next few years. We will continue to serve and empower our community, and we hope you join us as you reflect on our many accomplishments from this past year.

In community,



Caroline (Cara) Dessert, Esq.  
(She/Her/Hers)  
Chief Executive Officer





# A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CO-CHAIRS

## DEAR CENTER FAMILY,

Welcome to our FY2022 Annual Report! It has been a privilege to be co-chairs during a time of immense growth. The Center is entering our 50th year as the LGBTQ community's flagship organization in San Diego, and we invite you to join us in reflecting on our long and expansive journey.

The Center began in 1973 as an answering machine in a closet, serving as a lifeline for those in search of belonging, family, connection to community, and help. Our world was a very different place back then and being "out" wasn't an option for many. At a time when there was no place to turn, we began our work serving a few people at a time, driven by an urgency to support our community and each other. We quickly realized that the more we showed up, the more people bravely came forward for support and community.

Today, Your Center is among the largest and most vibrant LGBTQ community centers in the world. We provide programs and services for the full diversity of San Diego's lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, transgender, nonbinary, immigrant, and HIV communities, with more than 1,200 volunteers and over 100 full-time staff. We served clients with over 62,000 visits this year, intentionally growing our programs to evolve with our community's needs.

As we look to the future and prepare to celebrate our 50th anniversary in 2023, we hold our long history full of community stories and the trailblazers that came before us in our hearts. Through partnerships with other LGBTQ organizations, we ensure that we have a network of allies standing together against threats, while never forgetting to celebrate our culture and the wins that help protect our community. We strive for a future where we are an anchor for LGBTQ community centers, connecting local initiatives to national LGBTQ movements.

This is our work – to assert our humanity and to build LGBTQ community power, ensuring that we leave a legacy of empowered, healthy, thriving LGBTQ people. The past is our legacy, the present is our responsibility, and the future is our promise. Enjoy our year's reflection in this Annual Report and we hope you'll join us as we journey into the next 50 years.

In Community,



Joanna Clark  
(She/Her/Hers)  
Co-Chair, The Center's  
Board of Directors



Zaneta Encarnacion  
(She/Her/Hers)  
Co-Chair, The Center's  
Board of Directors



# STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

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## AN UPDATE ON THE CENTER'S THREE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

In early 2020, The Center announced our three-year strategic plan that charts a bold vision of The Center's future. Created from feedback from over 2,000 community members, volunteers, staff, and stakeholders, this is our "North Star" and outlines our 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 pleased to provide you with an update on our Strategic Plan.**

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### 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

# STRATEGIC PLAN IN ACTION IN FY 2022

## CRITICAL SERVICES

- The Center now employs more than 100 paid staff. The Center hired critical roles including a Deputy CEO, Senior Director of People and Culture, Permanent Supportive Housing Program Manager, Black Services Coordinator, Quality Assurance Coordinator, and Project TRANS Case Manager.
- During the height of the pandemic, we focused on providing drive-through HIV and HCV testing to our community. This year, we brought back walk-in HIV and HCV testing. In addition, we added STI screening services for the first time at The Center.

## ESSENTIAL SUPPORT

- The Center's main building is open for full in-person services five days a week, 10am to 7pm, and our Hillcrest Youth Center and South Bay Youth Center also resumed in-person services five days a week.
- The Center is increasing the opportunities to engage and serve underserved communities with the creation of our Black Services program, and with special events such as a COVID vaccine clinic last summer.



## QUALITY VALUED

- We remodeled the ground floor of the Main Center building to be a more welcoming space, creating a sense of belonging to Our Center.



*The Center's renovated main lobby*

- We installed a new client feedback tool in the main Center lobby, at the Latin@x Services entrance, at Hillcrest Youth Center, and at South Bay Youth Center to get real-time information about client satisfaction regarding our programs and services.

## ROBUST ENGAGEMENT

- Starting with our Community Open House re-opening celebration in May, we have been able to bring back more events in-person and gather in community inside our main Center once again.
- We have made progress toward our goal to increase the number of people engaging with The Center. We have seen significant increases in our social media followers, website page views, and E-News subscribers.

## COMMUNITY'S CENTER

- We purchased a new building to provide a permanent location for our Hillcrest Youth Center in order to increase the services provided to LGBTQ youth in the heart of Hillcrest.

# ADVOCACY & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Through advocacy, civic engagement, and building community power, The Center works to advance LGBTQ health and wellness, advocate for more inclusive spaces, policies, and resources, and advance human rights by amplifying the voices of our community members' lived experiences. A core value of The Center is that the health and wellness of our community thrives with strong advocacy and community power.

## SECURING FUNDING FOR A HISTORIC INCREASE IN LGBTQ-AFFIRMING EMERGENCY HOUSING IN SAN DIEGO

As a health and human service provider, The Center has seen first-hand a tremendous increase in housing needs in the past several years in San Diego. According to the region's 2022 Point in Time Count, which captures a snapshot in time, LGBTQ young adults are twice as likely to be unhoused when compared to their non-LGBTQ peers. LGBTQ youth and youth of color, in particular Black youth, are overrepresented in San Diego's unhoused population. Yet in the City of San Diego, there are currently only four shelter beds specifically designed to serve LGBTQ transitional age youth.

In order to expand the funding resources available to increase LGBTQ-affirming emergency housing and comprehensive support services, The Center worked in partnership with City Councilmembers over six months to successfully secure the inclusion of \$1.5 million for LGBTQ-affirming emergency housing in the City's FY23 budget.

These funds will drastically expand LGBTQ-affirming emergency housing for LGBTQ youth. This was only possible because of The Center's leading efforts, with the support of the City Council and Mayor.

This funding will also provide for increased wrap-around services specific to the LGBTQ community. This is a proven model that has been successful in decreasing the number of youth experiencing housing insecurity, and is a critical step in creating a San Diego that is welcoming and inclusive to all of its residents.





## HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

The Leon L. Williams San Diego County Human Relations Commission (HRC) was reinstituted in 2020 to promote positive relations, respect, and the integrity of every individual regardless of gender, religion, culture, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, or citizenship status.

Unfortunately, in November 2021, an appointed commissioner made transphobic and homophobic comments at a commission meeting and in subsequent correspondence with the commission.

The Center led a campaign to hold him accountable for this unacceptable conduct of an HRC commissioner. This effort was not easy, and in partnership with a group of more than 50 allies, we successfully advocated for the ability to have the HRC's bylaws updated to create a code of conduct in order to hold commissioners accountable for actions that are detrimental to the overall mission of the commission.

While the updated bylaws and new code of conduct were approved by the commission and the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, it was determined that they could not be applied to commissioners retroactively. Though our goal to remove was unsuccessful, our advocacy was successful in creating a mechanism for accountability moving forward, raising critical awareness about the harm that is created by transphobia and homophobia in our community.



## VOTER ENGAGEMENT

The Center is a trusted community messenger with a rich history in robust community empowerment and engagement. Over the course of four months leading up to the June 2022 primary election, we reached out to tens of thousands of voters throughout San Diego County, educating and encouraging them to vote.

Through our efforts, 73% of the voters we spoke to voted in the election, in comparison to 34.9% of overall county-wide voter turnout.

The Center was also open for a four-day period as a Vote Center, welcoming over 1,000 voters through our doors to vote in person or drop off their ballots. These collective efforts demonstrate our LGBTQ community power.



## ENGAGE SAN DIEGO

## ENGAGE SAN DIEGO

The San Diego LGBT Community Center is both the Fiscal Sponsor and a founding table partner of Engage San Diego. Serving the San Diego area for over 10 years, Engage San Diego is a collaborative network of social-justice focused, non-profit groups working to increase civic and voter engagement in historically and systemically excluded communities of San Diego County. With the support of its 15 table partners, Engage San

Diego works to create an electorate and leadership that are reflective of people who live and work in San Diego. Table partners are trusted messengers who reach out to their communities and share information on how to exercise their right to vote. Being both linguistically and culturally competent, our partners connect to voters via text messages, phone calls, and in person.

Across San Diego County, Engage San Diego and its table partners focus on reaching members of the New American Majority, including low-income families, LGBTQ+ folx, women, youth, immigrants, and AAPI, Black, and Latino/a/x communities. Over five months leading up to the June 2022 primary election, Engage San Diego's table partners engaged with approximately 25,000 voters throughout San Diego County, resulting in a 47% total voter turnout.

# THE CENTER'S HOUSING CONTINUUM

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San Diego continues to experience a housing crisis and LGBTQ communities are disproportionately affected. To do our part in meeting the housing needs of our community, The Center has implemented one of the most robust LGBTQ housing continuums in the country.

Many youth who are unsheltered identify as LGBTQ, and their lives as well as the lives of unhoused adults who are LGBTQ are significantly impacted. COVID-19 only exacerbated the disparities that existed in housing for our community. Our Referral and Resource Phone Line, one of our Emergency Services during the pandemic, continues to receive calls from community members looking for help.

Housing is a critical component in providing stability to community members' lives that have been disrupted and once secured, community members can focus on finding employment and getting insurance and health care. Unhoused community members are less likely to take medication or adhere to a medication schedule.

The Center has continued to advocate for more affordable and permanent supportive housing, more LGBTQ-inclusive emergency housing, wraparound services,

bolder renter protections, and more resources for rental relief, regardless of immigration status.

Leading to combat LGBTQ homelessness, The Center operates a one-of-a-kind Housing Continuum which includes a Permanent Supportive Housing program for LGBTQ adults, couples, families, and youth, and our housing programs include case management, connection to health care, mental health services, benefits enrollment, HIV testing, life skills training, educational and employment support, and more. This has enabled our community members who participate in our Housing Continuum to secure temporary and permanent housing and find stability in accessing essential services.

We continue to provide case management and professional mental health staff to work with our unhoused LGBTQ community members.

Every person deserves a home and we 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 our efforts, contact [housingservices@thecentersd.org](mailto:housingservices@thecentersd.org).

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## 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

**Karibu** — 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

**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 HOUSING PROGRAMS

**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





# THE CENTER'S FOOD PROGRAMS

Seeing food insecurity first-hand, The Center increased our free food programs to include a Community Food Bank, Senior Food Bank, home-delivery service of non-perishables, and food resources for the holidays including a Thanksgiving food giveaway and our annual Come Home For The Holidays event.



## FOOD PROGRAMS

**Community Food Bank** – Once a month food bank open to all members of the community

**Senior Food Bank** – A special monthly food bank for seniors in our community

**Home Delivery Service of Non-Perishables** – We arrange home delivery service of non-perishables to members of our community who sign up, and provided 833 food deliveries in the last fiscal year

**Thanksgiving Gift Card Giveaway** – Every year we give out gift cards for community members in time for Thanksgiving

**Come Home For The Holidays** – Our annual Come Home for The Holidays event is held in person at The Center and features a free holiday meal, resources from partner organizations, and a bag of non-perishables to take home



## OTHER FOOD RESOURCES

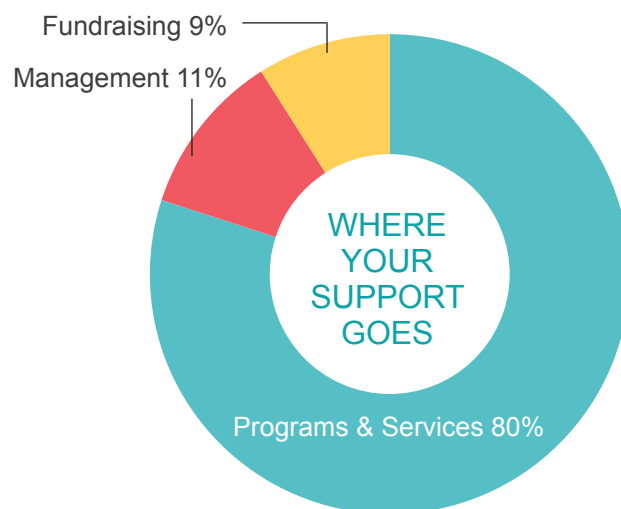
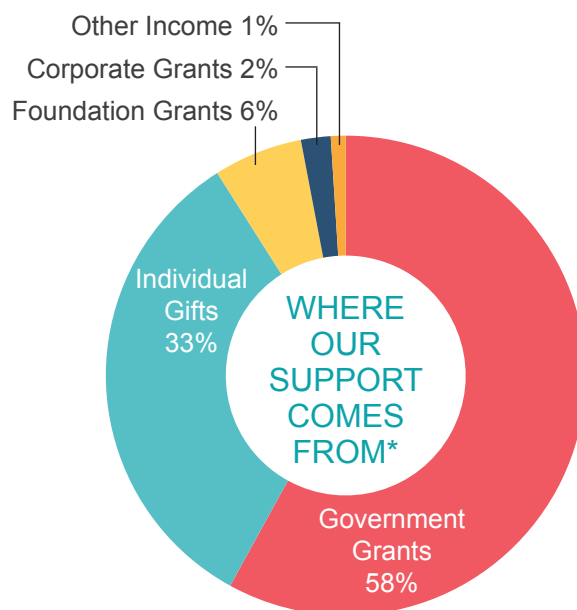
Because food insecurity impacts many in our community, part of our programming model includes providing food resources at our regular in-person meetings, including our monthly Senior Lunch & Learn, our monthly Lesbian Café, and our bi-monthly Senior Drop-in. Additionally, we provided 1,133 meals to youth staying at our LGBTQ Safe S.T.A.Y. emergency shelter.

## PROJECT COMPASSION

Project Compassion is a program that offers direct supportive resources for our unhoused community. Project Compassion provides clients with needed items like socks, toiletries, clothes, as well as food and water. The program also connects community members to internal and external resources like medical care, mental health services, addiction and recovery options, specialized case management, housing navigation, and benefits enrollment assistance. 30% of Project Compassion clients are living with HIV.

# FISCAL YEAR 2022 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

|   | JUNE 30, 2022<br>(unaudited) | JUNE 30, 2021<br>(unaudited) |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                               |                              |                              |
| Cash  | 14,039,374                   | 5,495,692                    |
| Accounts receivable                         | 294,909                      | 79,774                       |
| Bequest receivable                          | 9,117,678                    | —                            |
| Grants and contracts receivable             | 960,959                      | 1,213,679                    |
| Prepaid expenses                            | 217,659                      | 117,841                      |
| Fixed assets, net                           | 6,819,109                    | 4,984,314                    |
| Endowment funds                             | 808,766                      | 842,760                      |
| Deposits                                    | 19,850                       | 12,150                       |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                         | <b>\$32,278,304</b>          | <b>\$12,746,210</b>          |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>                          |                              |                              |
| Accounts and accrued expenses               | 861,022                      | 457,440                      |
| Deferred revenue                            | 345,536                      | 175,274                      |
| Accrued interest                            | 188,000                      | 176,000                      |
| Notes payable                               | 3,878,746                    | 3,878,746                    |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>                    | <b>\$5,273,304</b>           | <b>\$4,687,460</b>           |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                           |                              |                              |
| <b>Total Net Assets</b>                     | <b>\$27,005,000</b>          | <b>\$8,058,750</b>           |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES<br/>AND NET ASSETS</b> | <b>\$32,278,304</b>          | <b>\$12,746,210</b>          |



**80 cents of every dollar**  
donated to The Center provides  
funding for vital programs and services.

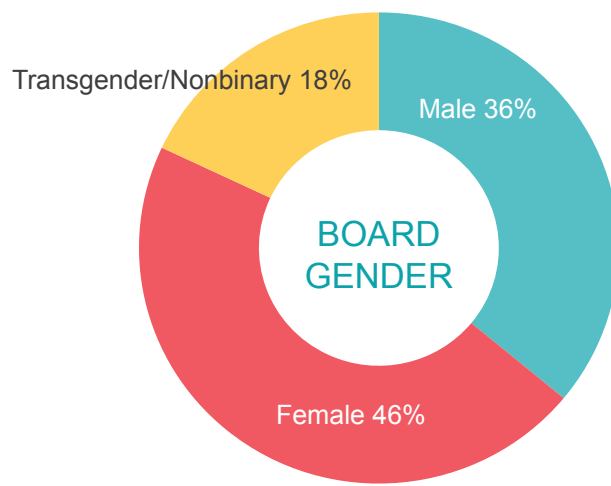
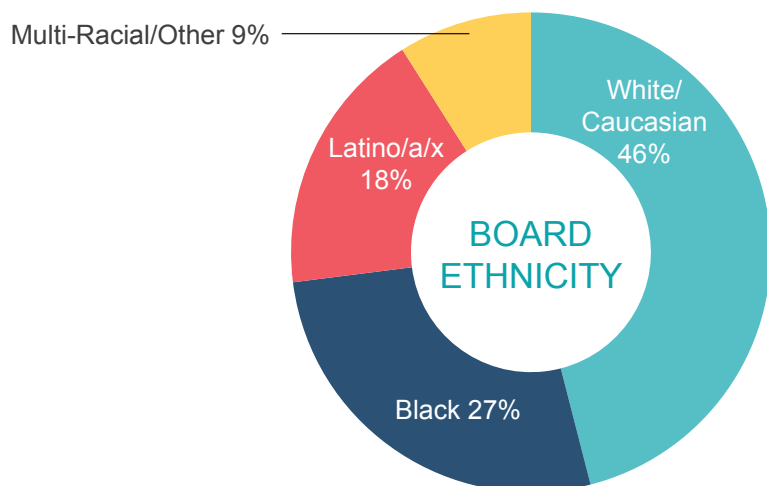
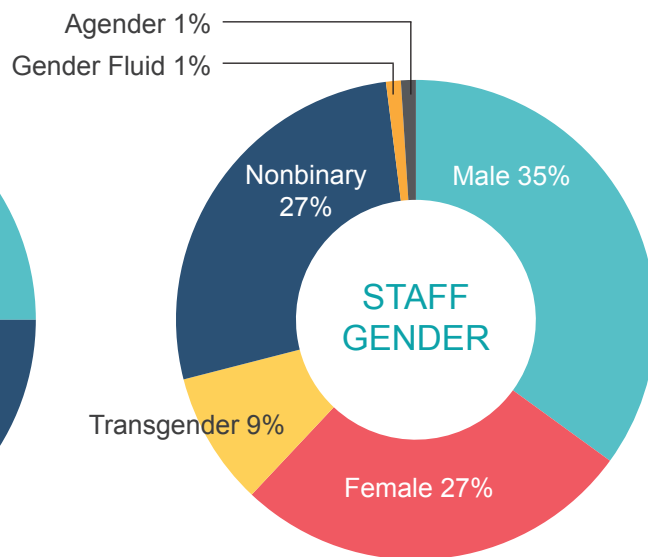
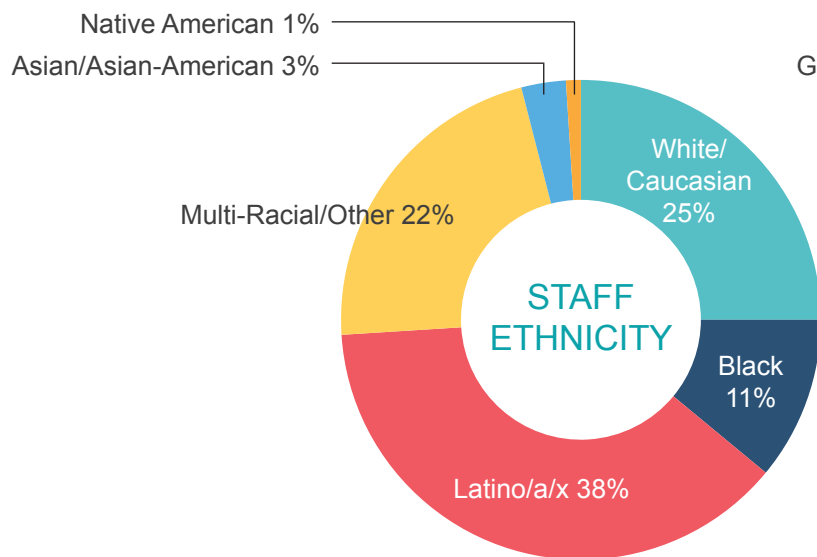
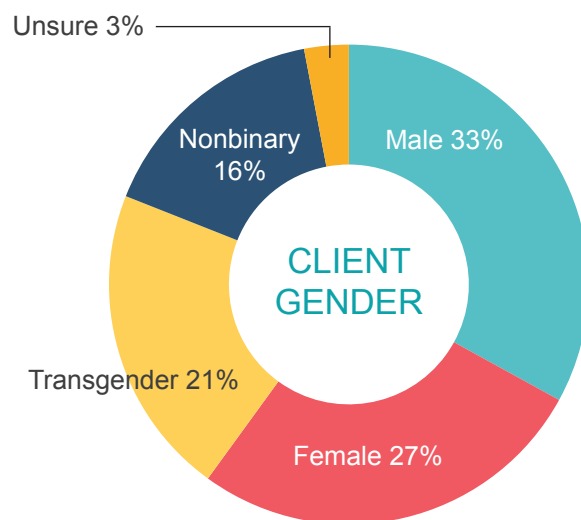
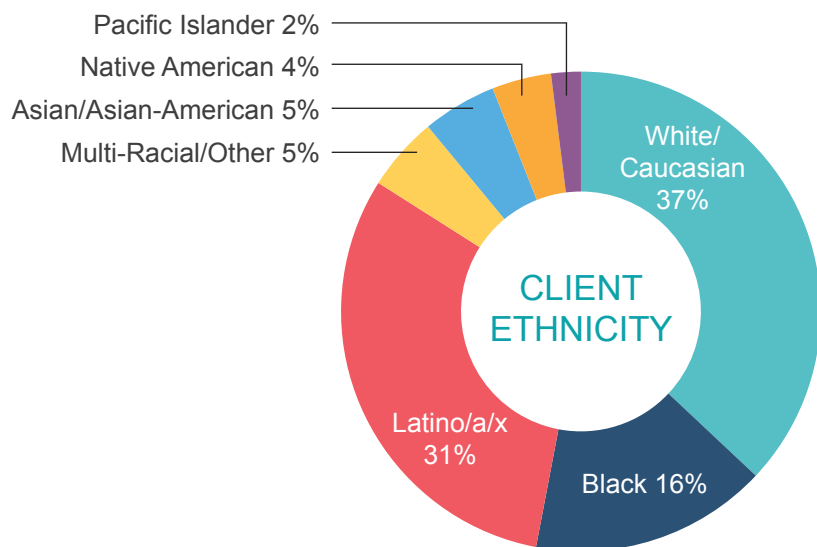
*These figures are based on unaudited numbers; audited financials will be available on The Center's website.*

*\*Excluding The Maurice Thimot and M. Rust Rawnsley Fund gift.*



# FISCAL YEAR 2022 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.



# NEW AT THE CENTER

The Center continues to respond to the shifting needs of our community every year, adding new services to meet the needs of the LGBTQ community in our San Diego region. Over the past fiscal year, The Center has expanded its offerings to better serve the diversity of our LGBTQ community.

## BLACK SERVICES AT THE CENTER

Black Services at The Center was launched in September 2021 to provide dynamic programming and direct services for the Black LGBTQ community. In addition to social events, community connections, and support and discussion groups, community members can receive medical and non-medical case management, information, and referrals to additional resources including HIV testing and PrEP navigation, and more. The following pre-existing groups are now part of Black Services at The Center.



### BLACK LGBTQ COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Black LGBTQ Community Advisory Committee provides input and feedback to The Center on issues impacting the Black LGBTQ community to better serve and welcome Black LGBTQ community members.

### BRAVE SPACE

A peer-led discussion group for LGBTQ+ folx of the Black and African diaspora community. Come together to bond, share, and connect in community, discuss anti-Black racism, express pain, and create support and healing.

### SHADES OF COLOR

A peer-led empowerment group for Black men (MSM). Topics with speakers include: living with HIV, normalization about sex, community mobilizing, dating, spiritual awareness, self healing, and much more.

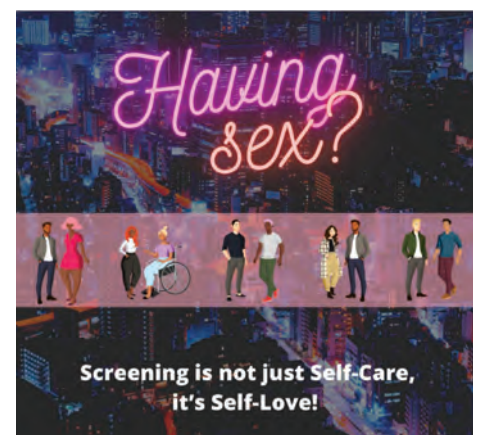
### LET'S TALK TUESDAYS

An intentional space to meet 1-on-1 or in small groups with our Black Services program coordinator and share feedback, challenges, issues, and opportunities about The Center's work with the Black LGBTQ community.

## EXPANDED STI SCREENING SERVICES

Free screening service for sexually transmitted infections (STI) began in March 2022. The Center now provides STI screenings for chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis as part of our #BeTheGeneration program. Sexual health does not begin and end with HIV testing. For people who are on PrEP, the CDC recommends regular STI screening every six months. People living with HIV who are sexually active should also get screened for STIs regularly, at least every six months.

Anyone who needs access to this free service can make an appointment by calling 619-692-2077 (English and Spanish speakers available), or by sending an email to [bethegeneration@thecentersd.org](mailto:bethegeneration@thecentersd.org). Walk-ins are available for STI screening and HIV/HCV testing.





# THE NEW HYC AND YOUTH PROGRAMS

Since 2016, we have had over 17,000 youth service visits and our numbers have been increasing. With the opening of our large and multi-faceted South Bay Youth Center in 2019, it became even clearer that we had outgrown our leased space in Hillcrest. After 22 years of renting space, we are thrilled to announce that the Hillcrest Youth Center will now have a new permanent location.

One of the important projects that was in the planning stages pre-pandemic was finding a larger space in Hillcrest for our youth. The Hillcrest Youth Center (HYC) opened its doors in 2000 to provide much-needed resources and programs for LGBTQ youth. Since then, thousands of youth from 10 to 24 years old have come through our doors and found a safe space to learn, ask questions, build community, and to truly be themselves, free of judgment. The breadth of services offered at HYC is extraordinary, from Discussion & Support groups, to mental health support, HIV testing and prevention, civic engagement, leadership development, assistance with educational opportunities, and a safe drop-in space for LGBTQ youth and their families.



Following a long and challenging search that began years ago, and as part of our current Strategic Plan, we found and have invested in a new space in the heart of Hillcrest. Many years in the making, this new space will allow us to expand our services to continue to give LGBTQ youth a place where they can connect with LGBTQ-affirming staff members who understand their journey. Our new space needs some TLC, including making it ADA-compliant, and we have begun essential renovations to make this a space where youth can thrive! We are planning a ribbon-cutting ceremony in 2023 to welcome our community to see and experience this new space, so stay tuned for details. We hope you'll join us in celebrating this next step in The Center's forward-looking plans to serve our community.



Hillcrest Youth Center and  
South Bay Youth Center  
are projected to serve more  
youth than ever before.

# THE MAURICE THIMOT AND M. RUST RAWNSLEY FUND

In June, we received news that Center supporters Maurice Thimot and Rust Rawnsley had left a historic gift to The Center through our planned giving program, The Stonewall Society. This amazing gay couple has created a legacy for our community's future, directing The Center to establish The Maurice Thimot and M. Rust Rawnsley Fund. The Maurice Thimot and M. Rust Rawnsley Fund will be used to intentionally create spaces and programs for our community, with a special focus on our LGBTQ seniors. We look forward to stewarding this fund by investing in our senior services and exploring long-term investments in capital projects. Though the full gift has not yet been received, the \$10M that has already been given is the largest donation in The Center's history.



## JOIN THE STONEWALL SOCIETY

### YOUR LEGACY LIVES ON IN OUR FUTURE

Please consider  
The San Diego LGBT  
Community Center in your  
estate plan. A planned gift  
leaves a lasting legacy of  
investment in The Center  
and our LGBTQ  
community.

The Stonewall Society is The Center's planned giving program, providing donors like you with a way to create a future gift to The Center, ensuring your legacy by providing support for generations to come.

Through The Stonewall Society, we seek to honor donors like you who share in our commitment to providing the best services for our LGBTQ+ community here in San Diego County while also working diligently to protect and advance our rights as they come under threat.

In helping to guarantee The Center's future with a gift through a trust, bequest, or other planned gift, your legacy will live on in the tens of thousands of people who rely on The Center every year.

---

**Visit [thecentersd.org/stonewall-society](https://thecentersd.org/stonewall-society) for the Gift Notification Form.**

You may also contact Ian Johnson, Senior Director of Development at [ijohnson@thecentersd.org](mailto:ijohnson@thecentersd.org) or 619-692-2077 x247.

# THE STONEWALL SOCIETY

Estate/planned giving gifts honor the past and shape our future. The Stonewall Society recognizes donors that have guaranteed The Center's future with a gift through a trust, bequest, or other planned gift. This list represents donors who have coordinated with us to guarantee The Center's future.

## STONEWALL SOCIETY MEMBERS

Bruce M. Abrams, Esq.  
Blair Alexander & Dan Belair  
Elenore "Lennie" Alickman  
Dale Beaver  
Roy Bogseth  
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Judith E. Reif  
Arthur Rossiter  
Arno Safier  
Norman Self  
Jeffrey White  
Dr. Stanley Willis  
Jay Wipolt



# NUMBERS IN ACTION FISCAL YEAR 2022



Total  
Service Visits  
**62,371**



**260**  
Clients tested  
for HIV

Clients  
connected  
to PrEP

**595**

Includes enrollment,  
referrals through  
HIV testing, and  
online education  
and referrals



**PREP**  
can prevent HIV

Youth  
Service Visits  
(Drop-In)

**1,161**

Includes South Bay  
Youth Center, Hillcrest  
Youth Center, Youth  
Queer Leadership  
Council

Condoms  
Distributed

**8,640**



Trusted  
Community  
Messenger

Website:

**212,001**  
page views

Social Media:

**91,774**  
engagements and  
**1,797,218**  
impressions

E-News  
subscribers:

**16,243**



**291**

Seniors attended  
support groups  
and programs



## Food Resources Services Provided

**13,102**

Includes our twice-a-month food bank, grocery gift cards, non-perishable food deliveries, and meals provided to Sunburst clients



## STI Screenings from March-June 2022

**213** tests provided

Welcome Desk  
**6,434**



Calls  
**5,146**  
Walk-Ins  
**1,288**

## Face Masks

**5,928**  
distributed



## Youth Housing Service Visits

**5,037**

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

Women's  
Coming Out  
Group

Men's  
Coming Out  
Group

TRANSGENDER &  
NONBINARY COMING  
OUT GROUP

Civic  
Engagement  
Conversations  
**8,076**



Behavioral  
Health Services  
**5,466**  
counseling sessions



Virtual Discussion  
Groups  
**1,768**  
Attendees at  
Virtual Discussion  
Groups  
**12,316**



# SIGNATURE EVENTS

The Center's signature events are a great way to make new friends, connect with community, and support the vital programs and services that The Center provides for our LGBTQ community.



## AIDS WALK & RUN SAN DIEGO

September 2021

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 13,000 San Diegans living with HIV/AIDS.



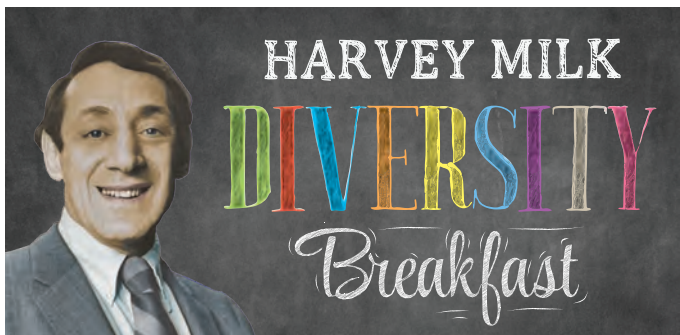
## DINING OUT FOR LIFE® SAN DIEGO

Save the Date: April 27, 2023

Each year, thousands of San Diegans Dine Out to Fight HIV in this international fundraising event. The 2022 DOFL event saw 70 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.



Watch the  
2022 Harvey  
Milk Diversity  
Breakfast  
Tribute Video



## HARVEY MILK DIVERSITY BREAKFAST

Save the Date: May 12, 2023

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. In 2022, due to pandemic-related restrictions on in-person events, we produced a Tribute Video. We can't wait to return to celebrate inperson next year on May 12, 2023! Proceeds from this event benefit the social services programs of The Center.



## PACHANGA DE FRIDA

Save the Date: June 24, 2023

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@x artists and vendors, a Frida look-alike contest, great food, and tequila! Proceeds benefit Latin@x Services at The Center. Stay tuned for more information for 2023!



THE SAN DIEGO  
LGBT COMMUNITY  
CENTER'S  
**50TH  
ANNIVERSARY  
GALA**



**SAVE THE DATE**

Saturday, October 14, 2023 | 6 - 10 pm  
Hilton Bayfront | 1 Park Blvd, San Diego

[www.thecentersd.org/gala](http://www.thecentersd.org/gala)



# EVERY DOLLAR MATTERS

## Thank you to our Center Donors

The San Diego LGBT Community Center gratefully acknowledges those who gave between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

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Dylan and Mikayla Jason  
David Mizener and Arturo Carrillo  
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## DEVELOPMENT TEAM

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**Leo Cartier Jr.** (he/him),  
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**Megan Meek** (she/her),  
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 mmeek@thecentersd.org

**Vaughn Rainwater** (he/him),  
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 vrainwater@thecentersd.org

## THANK YOU CENTER DONORS

The Board of Directors and staff of The Center sincerely thank all of our donors. Every donor and every dollar matters. Space restrictions prohibit us from recognizing every donor; this list includes all donors who contributed at least \$500 during the 2022 fiscal year (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022). We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this information and sincerely apologize for any misspelling or incorrect information found on this list. For corrections or updates, please contact [development@thecentersd.org](mailto:development@thecentersd.org) or call 619.692.2077 x247.

# THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS

**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. This fiscal year, we were finally able to bring back our robust volunteer program after a two-year pause due to the pandemic. The Center gratefully acknowledges those who volunteered this last year. Visit us at [www.thecentersd.org/volunteer](http://www.thecentersd.org/volunteer) for more information on our volunteer program.

|                    |                        |                     |                         |                  |
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| Nashmi Alanazi     | Carter Bratt           | Laura Crites        | Dennis Fiordaliso       | Jack Hughes      |
| Geoffrey Alejo     | Liz Brekke             | Daniel Cuevas       | Nicole FitzGerald       | Christina Huynh  |
| Adrienne Alexander | Jacqueline Bridenbaker | Danita Davis        | Diego Flores            | Jason Iannello   |
| Blair Alexander    | Joel Briggs            | Jewel Davis         | Jules Forest            | Daniel Ianniello |
| Renme Alfaro       | CJ Brio                | Reynaldo De La Rosa | Joseph Foster           | Emmanuel Isidro  |
| Genevra Allen      | Tyler Brobst           | Jeff Dean           | Jude Fox                | Marlissa Ivers   |
| Esteban Alvarado   | Matt Brown             | Yvette Deas         | Michael Steven Gallegos | Ari Jacome Lopez |
| Tonja Alvis        | Jim Browning           | Anthony DeBenedetto | Jan Garbosky            | Rebecca James    |
| Catie Anderson     | Earl Brumfield         | Ashlee Delzingaro   | Michael Garcia          | Mark Janz        |
| Marti Angel        | Julian Bryant          | Dominic Demarco     | Noah Garcia             | Victor Javaux    |
| Michael Aron       | Evan Budraitis         | Seth Dennison       | Anthony Garibay-Mena    | JJ Javelet       |
| Jorge Arrellano    | Anh Bui                | Moorea Dequito      | Charles Garland         | Kevin Jiang      |
| Kehinde Asojo      | Zach Bunshaft          | Alera Dermody       | Eboni Gatson            | Ashley Johnson   |
| Mayra Avendano     | Caleb Burch            | Alan Des Roches     | Evan Giordano           | Kelly Johnson    |
| Natalia Averett    | David Busacca          | Bridgett Diaz       | Skyler Giovinozzo       | Richard Johnson  |
| Robert Avery       | Kayla Button           | Chanel Dickenson    | Jason Gordon            | Todd Johnson     |

**Total number of active volunteers: 546**

**Total number of volunteer hours: 10,728**

**Monetary value of volunteer hours: \$321,303**

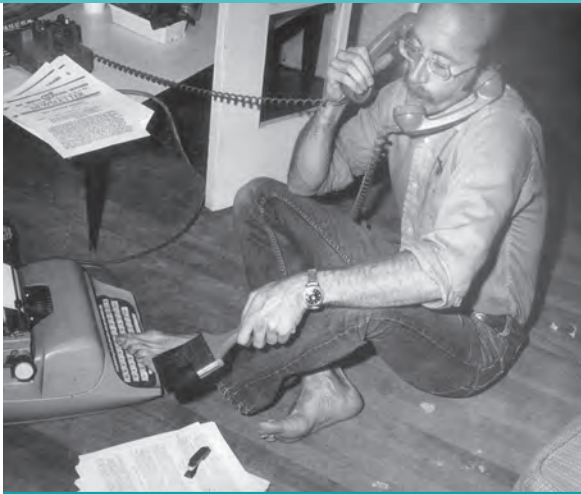
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|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Sabah Awar              | Rodrigo Caballero | Ria Diddee              | John Greenwell    | Steven Keeley    |
| Jake Babauta            | Alicia Calahorro  | Jim Diggins             | Ondriah Guillory  | Anevay King      |
| Katherine Badami        | Israel Calderon   | Alejandra Dominguez     | Jose Gutierrez    | Colin King       |
| Deborah Bagdazian       | Abigail Caldwell  | Lopez                   | Derryl Hadley     | Zoe Kinsler      |
| Jordan Bagley           | Cecelia Caldwell  | Tim Dominic             | Forest Haerr      | Erica Kirk       |
| Yolanda Bagtas          | Gerri Campbell    | Rachael Donahue         | Kara Hamamoto     | Jeff Klatt       |
| Pooja Bakhai            | Benj Canales      | Vi Douglas              | Savannah Hampton  | Josh Klimczyk    |
| Diana Banh              | Candace Caple     | Katie Doyle             | John Hanley       | Larry Ko         |
| Lilia Bannister         | Luca Caputo       | Randi Dropkin           | Nikki Harman      | Brad Konz        |
| John Banuelos           | Kevin Cardenas    | Stephanie Dunbar        | Duan Harriion     | J'myle Koretz    |
| Francisco Santos Barros | Faith Carrion     | Nora Dunn               | Stefon Harris     | Tim Kozloski     |
| Briana Bartmas          | Mike Carter       | Spencer Durnan          | John Hart         | Alex Krisiewicz  |
| Era Bayrak Berg         | Kayla Caruso      | Caitlin Eagen           | Kerry Hayden      | John Kudela      |
| Brent Beavers           | Tara Caruso       | Lucy Edwards            | Kenneth Hayes     | Aneesh Kulkarni  |
| Shawna Beck             | Mike Casey        | Kip Eischen             | Cameron Hensley   | Richard Kuper    |
| Charlie Beckler         | Arturo Castaneda  | Isa Elfers              | Horacio Hernandez | Meridith Lafrenz |
| Lucy Bell               | Ximena Castaneda  | Michael Elliott         | Lenith Hernandez  | Tom Lashbrook    |
| Jim Bertz               | Aaron Cervantes   | Charles Enciso          | Richard Hernandez | Tessa Lauren     |
| Robert Bettinger        | Jim Chaffee       | Allison Endara          | Jazreal Herrera   | Allie Laurie     |
| Anne Bird               | Erikrene Chagoyan | Elias Malachi Enguancho | Silvia Herstik    | Nicole Le        |
| Paige Biron             | Lorena Chavarin   | Rozene Enloe            | Kevin Heyvaert    | Tess Leathers    |
| Chevelle Blackburne     | Shea Cheatham     | Lane Entrekinn          | Alex Hickey       | Gretchen Ledesma |
| Bee Blackman            | Sabrina Choung    | Jorge Espitia-Towner    | David Hicks       | Isaiah LeDonne   |
| John Blansfield         | Ilesha Clemons    | Jarmaine Evans          | Laura Higby       | Rebecca Lee      |
| Steven Blocker          | Lisa Clubb        | Monty Fabrizio          | Ruth Hinckfuss    | Charles Leib     |
| Steven Bolin            | Paige Coe         | Rudy Fabunan            | Jennifer Hindman  | Maryrose Leivas  |
|                         |                   |                         | Ray Hitchcock     | Justyna Lenowska |

|                          |                      |                           |                      |                       |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Ailyn Leon               | George Montgomery    | Sean Redmond              | Daniel Shaw-Cedeno   | Ray Valenzuela        |
| Kelly Leon               | Eric Montijo         | Rosemary Reese            | Toney Shea           | Ricardo Valenzuela    |
| Bryan Levy               | Abrahan Monzon       | Michael Reinhart          | Kathleen Short       | Andrea Vallejo        |
| Elaine Lewis             | Coyote Moon          | Tony Rengel               | Kathryn Showers      | David Vance           |
| Bob Leyh                 | Cameron Moore        | Jennifer Restle           | John Shue            | Mathew VanDenHeuvel   |
| Zhi Li                   | Nicollette Moore     | David Reyes               | Camiel Silvas        | Kai Vang              |
| Anthony Limon            | Samuel Mora-Lopez    | Juan Reyes                | Dani Silver          | Darcus Vannguyen      |
| Fernando Limon           | Pavel Morales        | William Rho-Renshaw       | Mina Silver          | Sirena Vargas         |
| Elliott Linwood          | Sondra Morris        | Luigi Ribera              | Jessica Sinado       | Achi Vasquez          |
| Ming-Han Liu             | Matt Morscheck       | Alexandra Rice            | Jashneel Singh       | Ricardo Vasquez       |
| David Loggins-McDaniel   | Emily Morton         | Cliff Ridenour            | Robin Slade          | Terry Vaughn          |
| Edwin Lohr               | Lucia Mosca          | Kate Rigby                | Yogi Slivers         | Julianne Velante      |
| Johann Lomeli            | Amber Musgrove       | James Riggins             | Rebekah Smiley       | Donnie Vella          |
| Benjamin Lopez           | Sahar Nafez-Sabzwari | Bobby Riggs               | John Smilges         | Jonathan Verdugo      |
| Miguel Lopez             | Lucia Napolez        | Brian Ringer              | Dana Smith           | Jose Vilca            |
| Shelly Lorenze           | Dana Nelsen          | Al Rios                   | Niki Smith           | Blade Villegas        |
| Stevon Love              | Lance Nelson         | Leland Ritter             | Jenny Solano         | Yazmin Virgen         |
| Kiesha Lumpkin           | Mark Newsome         | Jose Rivera               | Lexie Solomon        | Tiffany Wade          |
| M M                      | Taylur Ngo           | Nathaniel Robel           | Drew Sommers         | Cameron Wadstrom      |
| Ann Mac Donald           | Heather Nitschke     | Marissa Roberts           | Humberto Soto        | Josh Walden           |
| Connor Maddocks          | Jaime Nixon          | Abigail Robles            | Julian Soto          | Peter Wallace         |
| Matthew Madrid           | William Norwood      | Raul Robles               | Alex Southard        | Emma Walsh            |
| Fabian Maes              | Patrick O'Connor     | Renzo Rocchegiani         | Sheila Speirs        | Tamra Ward            |
| Matthew Maga             | TJ O'Donnell         | Joe Rodriguez             | Peter Springall      | Luis Warehime         |
| Jacinda Maheras          | Lucas Occhino        | Jose Rodriguez            | Sebastian Stein      | Bri Warren            |
| Sam Mallen               | Kathryn Owens        | Veronica Rodriguez Juarez | Robert Stillman      | Bruce Warren          |
| Lauren Manchester        | George Paciga        | Dominic Rolla             | Karen Stone          | Masen Webster         |
| Eli Mancini              | Woody Packard        | Marcel Henrique Rosa      | Jacob Stout          | Kathleen Weeks        |
| José Marquez             | Albert Padilla       | Machado                   | Jonathon Sunada      | Sandy Weeks           |
| Jenna Marsh              | E'Luna Padilla       | Abbey Rosario             | Kent Swedell         | Spencer Weisenberg    |
| Alexander Martinez       | Richmond Pagaduan    | Valerie Rosas             | Christopher Talbot   | Bridget Weisz         |
| Alli Martinez            | Margarita Palli      | Mark Rosenberg            | Randy Teetz          | Scott Weldon          |
| Ana Laura Martinez       | Anna Panganiban      | Neil Rothschild           | Kathy Thater         | Harvey Wells          |
| Victor Martinez          | Izabella Paradise    | Hailey Rowe               | Lyssa Thomas         | Patricia Welti        |
| Michalene Martucci       | Michelle Parra       | Josh Royle                | Alexis Thome         | Joel White            |
| Mike Maschino            | Danielle Parral      | Daniel Rubin              | Cecilia Thompson     | Summer White          |
| Lane Mashal              | Antonio Parrales     | Alfredo Ruiz              | Judy Thompson        | Steve Wichmann        |
| Daniel Masterson         | Teresa Patchill      | Anthony Ryder             | John Tibbals         | Jon Wiemhoff          |
| Sajin Mathew             | Vania Pena           | Lem Salao                 | Louie Titcomb        | Elia Wiese            |
| Edward Matthews          | Brian Penrose        | Livè Salas                | Edgar Toledo Ramirez | Jakedria Williams     |
| Angelle Maua             | Alex Perez           | Renato Salazar            | Rafael Toribio       | Grayson Willow        |
| Rory Mauro               | Orlando Perrera      | Jose Salgado              | Felix Torres         | Juan Wilson           |
| Nichole McCune           | Casey Perrine        | Jesus Salinas             | Hector Torres        | Kevin Windmiller      |
| Erin McDougall           | Caiden Peterson      | Michael Saltsman          | Mario Torres         | Randy Wolter          |
| Lauren McGowan           | Samara Peterson      | Felipe Sanchez            | Richard Torres       | Susan Wong            |
| Austin McKinley          | Cheryl-Anne Phillips | Roger Sanchez             | Emily Tran           | Zoe Xia               |
| Lauren McMonagle         | Erin Pike            | Mark Sanders              | Noel Travis          | Hannah Xu             |
| Jonathan McMullen        | Joy Plummer          | Albert Santibanez         | Ale Trier            | Chris Yager           |
| Elizabeth McNally        | Jenn Polish          | Ayumi Sasaki              | Angela Troska        | Karin Yamada          |
| Nicole Meda              | William Pontius      | Chris Scanzoni            | Angela Trunzo        | Valeria Yamashitafuji |
| Alejandro Medina         | Lady Pepper Price    | Julia Schiffman           | Patrick Tynan        | Arnold Yoon           |
| Carlos Merino            | Greg Prieto          | Phil Schlaadt             | Johnny Umali         | Emily Yost            |
| Lisa Merzwski            | John Protomaster     | Herbert Schnabel          | Sofia Unal           | Edric Zeng            |
| Ethan Messer             | Alyssa Puente        | Gary Schneider            | Brian Urban          | Oliver Zirbel         |
| Sophie Metee             | Eric Quintero        | Ted Schreiber             | Erykah Valencia      | Dora Zuniga           |
| Mike Mikulski            | Mohammed Rahman      | Gary Schultz              |                      |                       |
| Timothy Miller           | Hank Ramirez         | Evan Schwartz             |                      |                       |
| Aaron Millonzi           | Marcie Ramirez       | Michael Searfoss          |                      |                       |
| David Miranda            | Sandra Ramirez       | Jaime Seiverd             |                      |                       |
| Catalina Miranda Aguilar | Brian Ramos          | Roy Sekigahama            |                      |                       |
| Cameron Mitchell         | Evelyn Ramos         | Gabriel Serrano           |                      |                       |
| Cheli Mohamed            | Wally Rashid         | AJ Sethi                  |                      |                       |
| Jarett Montero           | Jose Recuero         | James Sharkey             |                      |                       |

This list includes all volunteers during the 2022 fiscal year (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022). We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this information and sincerely apologize for any misspelling or incorrect information found on this list. For corrections or updates, please contact [volunteer@thecentersd.org](mailto:volunteer@thecentersd.org).



# THE JOURNEY FROM THEN TO NOW



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 closet that served as a lifeline for those looking for compassionate connection, The Center is now one of the largest and most vibrant LGBTQ community centers in the world. We provide our community with more than 60,000 direct service visits each year with programs including BeTheGeneration Sexual Health and Wellness, Behavioral Health Services, Black Services, Family Services, Latin@x Services, Men’s and Women’s Services, 50+ & Better Together Senior Services, Project TRANS Transgender and Nonbinary Services, 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

## 2003

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

## 2003

AIDS Walk & Run San Diego returned to The Center as a Center program



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

## 2004

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



## 2004

Latin@x Services was established, providing a culturally-affirming drop-in space, support groups, and social programs for our LGBTQ Latin@x community



## 2004

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



## 2006

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

## 2007

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



## 2007

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



## 2008

The Equality Voters program was established to encourage community-wide voter registration and full, non-partisan, participation in elections

## 2009

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

## 2010

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



## 2010

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

## 2011

Senior Housing Needs Assessment completed



## 2012

Founded by CEO Dr. Delores Jacobs, Young Professionals Council (YPC) is a program of The Center that fosters a culture of diversity, service, leadership, advocacy and camaraderie among emerging LGBTQ leaders in the San Diego region, typically between 21-40 years of age. Through a service learning model that expands on people's leadership and network, members have the opportunity to get plugged into and grow within The Center and the LGBTQ justice movement at large.

**2012** 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

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



## 2013

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





## 2014

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



**2016** The #BeTheGeneration TRANS campaign launched



**2016** Construction begins on The North Park Senior Apartments, an affordable LGBTQ-welcoming housing project

## 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



## 2017

Dr. Delores Jacobs announced her intended retirement from The Center. Led by Board Co-Chair Joyce Rowland, The Center launched a nationwide search that solicited feedback on characteristics sought in the new Center chief executive. More than 200 interviews and focus groups were conducted.



**2018** The LGBTQ-welcoming affordable senior housing project opens



## 2018

The Center reaches \$2 million fundraising goal. Matching donors Ron Bowman, with his husband Stan Zukowsky, announce a second gift of \$1.65 million to pay off the mortgage for the Centre Street building in spring of 2018.



## 2018

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



## 2018-19

The Center embarked on the first border campaign to ensure that legal services, case management, and humanitarian relief were provided to LGBTQ and HIV-positive asylum seekers who arrived at the Mexican/U.S. border



**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 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 Center expands its housing program to an entire housing continuum, including the new LGBTQ Safe S.T.A.Y. Program for LGBTQ youth.







## 2019

The Center holds a Town Hall for the Black LGBTQ community, which leads to new anti-racism policies and initiatives at The Center and the formation of the Black LGBTQ Community Advisory Committee. The Center now provides anti-Black racism trainings for staff, board members, donors, and volunteers.



## 2020

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



## 2020

COVID-19 hits San Diego on March 20, 2020. The Center responded to unprecedented community need for housing, food, and mental health support. The Center continued to provide emergency services throughout the pandemic, including: 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.



## 2021

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



**2021** The Center launches the Training Institute providing high-quality, professional trainings to assist organizations to strengthen their knowledge and skills in working with the LGBTQ community, as well as how to best serve and respect LGBTQ people.



## 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, and 19-24. The program centers youth of color.

## 2021

Black Services at The Center is established to provide dynamic programming and direct services for San Diego's Black LGBTQ community.



## 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

During The Center's closure due to the pandemic, the main facility at 3909 Centre Street received upgrades including new floors, new lighting, a new welcome desk and lobby area, renovated restrooms, a new Sexual Health & Wellness Lounge, new community meeting rooms, and improvements to the sound system in the historic auditorium, as well as a new HVAC system to provide the cleanest air possible to our community.

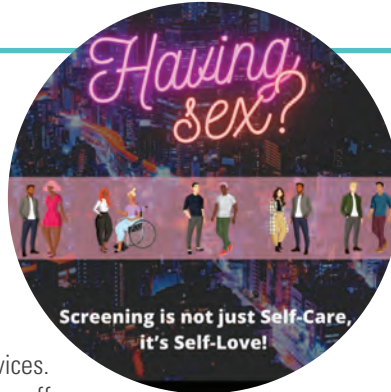


## 2021

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

## 2022

The Center expands its Sexual Health and Wellness Program to include STI screening services. The Center now offers chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis screenings as well as HIV and hepatitis C testing.



## 2022

The Center is notified that Maurice Thimot and Rust Rawnsley had left a sizeable gift to The Center through The Center's planned giving program, The Stonewall Society. Their gift is estimated at \$19M, the largest gift The Center has ever received.



## 2022

The Center hosts an Open House in May to welcome the community back to The Center's main building once renovations were completed. The Open House brings over 400 community members to learn about The Center's programs and services.

## 2022

The Center purchases its first building in 16 years to become the new home of the Hillcrest Youth Center.



## 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 10am-7pm

### HILLCREST YOUTH CENTER\*

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

*\*Current location – new location to be announced*

### SOUTH BAY YOUTH CENTER

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

### SUNBURST YOUTH HOUSING PROJECT

Phone: 619.692.2077 x124

**Hours of Operation:**

24 hours a day, 7 days a week



**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 100 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 60,000 service visits to San Diego community members, and through its events, activities, and advocacy, touched the lives of thousands more. For more information on The Center, visit [thecentersd.org](http://thecentersd.org) and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

[www.thecentersd.org](http://www.thecentersd.org)

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