



# OPEN DOORS

The Newsletter of the Northern Illinois PFLAG Chapters

## President's Column

Recommended reading: May 22 New York Times editorial "An Openly Gay Man Runs the Army". Find a link to it on the council's Facebook page.

Five years ago this would have been unimaginable; *Don't Ask; Don't Tell* had not yet been repealed. That breakthrough came on September 20, 2011. Now, not only can gay and lesbian people serve openly in the military, but the Army itself is being led by a totally-out gay man.

Remember the fear mongering. Straight guys wouldn't want to be billeted with a gay man; they might get sexually attacked. Straight guys didn't want gay guys leering at them as they showered or changed clothes. Somehow the unit would be weaker and less able to carry out its mission.

There was less fear of lesbian women and therefore less uproar about them serving in the military. However, simply by virtue of their sexual orientation, they were still perceived to be a threat...somehow...Likewise, there seems to be much less hullabaloo on transmen using bathrooms... (Is the subtle message here to beware of cismen?)

I see parallels in today's battle over bathroom use. Fear mongering is still at work. Convince parents that their children are at risk if transgender people use the bathroom that matches their gender identity. We can't let "men" mingle with women in the rest room, the other side says. (It's too bad that we have an "us" and "them.") If only the people who oppose allowing transgender people to use the bathroom that matches their interior sense of who they are could sit down, one-on-one, with a transgender person or in the case of a child, with the child's parents. If only these folks could be made to understand that a transgender person isn't going to go into a restroom and "flash" everyone else. Those body parts that are most in conflict with self-identity are going to be kept hidden, not put on display for all to see. Multiply this scenario many times over so that multiple stories are shared. Let each side talk over their fears, openly, honestly, and respectfully. This is what is meant by education. Surely open dialogue would go a long way toward dispelling fear.

The argument, though, is taking on a subtle change. The focus now seems to be shifting to the possibility that cisgender men will don a dress in order to gain access to women's restrooms for the purpose of leering at or even attacking women and children, claiming a right to be there because they are transgender. Therefore, the solution as they see it is to bar all transgender people from using the bathroom of the gender with which they identify. Even if a person's genitals have been surgically refashioned, use DNA to protect the sanctity of the bathroom.

Could it happen? I suppose so. Anything's possible. Put a few drinks in some guy and dare him to do it, and I daresay he might. He claims to be transgender; how can the police or security guards prove that he isn't? (I'm assuming, ladies, that if we see any person in a bathroom doing anything else other than that for which bathrooms are designed, we're going to scream bloody murder...or at least get on our cell phones and call 911.)

Maybe that's the answer right there. If any person, cis or trans, is acting in a manner that makes others ill at ease, from staring to making inappropriate comments, from attempting to touch or trying to restrain a person, call for help, and back out of the restroom pronto. Let the perpetrator be arrested for disorderly conduct.

What about the children, people ask? How can they possibly defend themselves against restroom perverts? I've raised three boys. When they were little, I brought them into the women's restroom with me, or my spouse accompanied them. When they were older but not yet old enough to handle difficult situations, I was nearby, usually standing very close to the restroom entrance. We know there are bad people in the world, so we do whatever we can to protect them.

Restrooms are also very public spaces; people come and go all the time. Any person with malicious intent has to be aware that at any moment, the restroom door may open and someone will come in if there aren't already other people

PFLAG is a non-profit, tax-exempt, all volunteer, local community-based organization of parents, relatives and friends of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons. PFLAG is not affiliated with any ethnic, religious, economic or political group.

OPEN DOORS is a publication of the Northern Illinois PFLAG chapters. Articles that appear do not necessarily reflect the opinions of PFLAG, its Board of Directors or members. We reserve the right to edit any submissions. Priority is given to original work by the membership.

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## President's Column Continued...

in there to begin with. It would be interesting to see if there are any statistics on crime committed in public restrooms.

This entire first part of the discussion focused on public restrooms in public spaces, but what about in schools? School policy after school policy requires that a student be socially transitioning, to be in the process of change so that the outward trappings match the inner identity (name, pronoun, clothing, hair style, etc.) Students who are transitioning are generally required to meet with school personnel who will help devise a plan for the transitioning process at school. In other words, a student doesn't suddenly show up at school one day declaring a different gender identity and expecting the school to immediately comply with all requests. No, policies are being carefully crafted.

Ideally, every multiple stall restroom would be replaced with single occupant facilities, but until that day happens, let the folks who are afraid or uncomfortable use the private facilities. I think we should accommodate them; just don't legislate that transgender people must use them.

I, for one, am waiting for the day when transgender becomes such a non-issue that the editorial page of the New York Times lauds the appointment of an openly transgender person to the position of Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Until then, let's continue working to

Move Equality Forward!

Toni

## Get Ready for Pride Month

PLAGers are invited to participate in Chicago's first ever Family Pride celebration outside of Lakeview on **Saturday, June 25 on Navy Pier**. The celebration will be epic with performances peppered throughout the day, including Milly's Orchid Show, DJ Ralph Rosario, Lakeside Pride Marching Band, Alexa Grae, Yuri Lane and his 8-year old daughter Delilah Rose, House-O-Matic and many, many others. We will be featuring Chicago's Biggest Wedding on the Pier and the entire fest will culminate with a mammoth fireworks display.

In addition, and perhaps most special, we will be bringing back The Names' Project's AIDS Quilt 28 years after it was first displayed on Navy Pier, commemorating the Pier's progressive commitment to diversity and inclusion at a time when it wasn't common. It will be a testament to where we've come as a community, culture and city.

**We would love PFLAG to have a strong presence at this event by setting up a table or just having members mingling with the crowd in t-shirts. This would be a terrific outreach opportunity for PFLAG with the more than 30K guests expected to attend.**

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thanks so much, and we LOVE PFLAG!

*Steve Abrams*  
Guest Artistic Director Navy Pier  
[steveabrams123@gmail.com](mailto:steveabrams123@gmail.com) 773-458-3388





# WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW!! in Our Chapters?

## HINSDALE CHAPTER

By Barb Medley

Our May speaker was Fran Zucco, BSN, RN-BC, Clinical Leader at Linden Oaks Behavioral Health, who counsels transgender individuals. Linden Oaks, in Naperville, is part of Edward-Elmhurst Health.

Fran talked about the problems faced by transgender people, who face higher rates of drug use and abuse, suicide, depression, homelessness, physical assault and family rejection. Transgender patients experience discrimination at the workplace and in housing, services and healthcare. A national survey found that transgender individuals postponed medical care and faced hurdles accessing care including refusal of care, harassment and violence and lack of provider knowledge. They face barriers in the inpatient setting, through care givers' misidentifying patients when using their preferred names, confusion regarding room assignment and lack of awareness and sensitivity on admission and during treatment. In response, and with the help of our dear friend Carolyn Wahlskog from Youth Outlook, Fran created a Task Force of health care providers at Linden Oaks who will develop guidelines to meet their transgender patients' needs. They developed an identity assessment that includes questions such as what gender do you identify as, what name do you prefer to be called, what pronouns do you prefer, and what can we do to help meet your needs. Their ultimate goal is to provide safe and affirming care through methods including conducting the gender identity assessment, listing the preferred name next to the legal name on the medical record, using preferred name and pronouns and educating staff. Fran can be reached at fzucco@edward.org.

Our June speaker is Kimberly Lux, social worker at the Howard Brown Health Center, whose focus is on serving transgender children and youth, as well as their families. Finally, we so appreciate all our members and the congregation of Hinsdale Unitarian Church for their contributions to the "shower" we had for 360 Youth Services. We donated pillows, towels, toiletries, kitchen supplies and a lamp for their resident apartments. We were happy to be able to express our love and support for this wonderful program.

## PTI CHICAGO CHAPTER

By Arlene Collins

Our April PTI Meeting was very well attended and there were 4 new families.

Our guest speaker was Candice Hart, a member of the Board at Center on Halsted and a past member of PTI starting in 2009. Candice came out after she retired from a Management position at a company in Chicago. She lived as a man during the day and in the evenings presented as a female. She knew she would not be accepted where she was employed and waited to retire so she would not lose her benefits. She was married with grown children and had a tough decision to make. But, she made that decision to live in her true identity. She spoke of the challenges with her family and issues she faced along the way. She went back to school and is a Licenced Professional Counselor. She is very active in the trans community. We asked many questions pertaining to our kids and she had lots of information to impart to the group. It was very interesting for the group to meet a trans woman who waited as long as she did to come out. In her life, she put everyone ahead of her. She is such a delightful person and I would recommend her as a speaker.

May 12th is our next meeting and we will welcome Myles Brady from the Howard Brown Center who will discuss their Outreach Trans Program. Hope you can join us.



## Deerfield CHAPTER

By Janet Svatos & Sue Ginsburg

We were honored to welcome Dawn Etchason as our speaker for May. Dawn was a past recipient of the John Paul Ohadi Scholarship. For those of you who are not familiar with this scholarship, it has been awarded annually the past ten years by Cynthia Drey, in memory of her son, John Paul. Cynthia was a former member of PFLAG Deerfield, who has since moved to Texas. However, she returns once a year to award her scholarships to deserving LGBT students from this area. Dawn returned to tell us how this scholarship impacted her life. When she first came out in 1996, her family's strong religious background and

vehement disapproval caused Dawn to back away from her disclosure. She went back into the closet where she remained until finally coming out for good in 1999. Dawn's family wouldn't allow her to accept the scholarship unless she had excellent grades, which she did: 3.9!!! The scholarship enabled Dawn to complete her degree in law enforcement. Between 1996 and 1999, Dawn held down three jobs to help pay for school! Dawn is now married and through the auspices of the Dave Thomas Foundation, Dawn and her wife fostered a teenage boy and have now adopted him. Her son has recently been a first time guest speaker addressing a group at an adoption matching program. Dawn's wife had a daughter and now they have a wonderfully complete family!

Our June meeting will celebrate the new recipients of the Ohadi Scholarship, so stay tuned!!!



## **McHenry CHAPTER**

By Toni Weaver

**Disclaimer:** PFLAG as an organization may not endorse candidates for public office. To do so would be to put our 501c3 status at risk.

Several candidates for public office attended PFLAG McHenry's May chapter meeting for the purpose of listening to the concerns voiced by LGBTQ people and their allies: Nancy Zettler, running for the Representative Dist. 66 seat and Melissa Coyne, running for State Senate in Legislative Dist. 32

We welcome those holding office or running for office to attend our meetings, allowing us the opportunity to question them on their stance on issues that directly affect us and those we love.

It has been ten years since the rowing events for the Gay Games came to Crystal Lake. In response to all of the publicity, both good and bad, one of our members decided that PFLAG needed to have a visible presence in the community's annual parade. This is our 10th year of participation. Please join us on Sunday, July 3, at 12:30PM. The staging area is just west of City Hall on Woodstock Street. After the parade, we meet for an ice cream social at the Colonial Café on Rte. 14.



## **Tinley Park CHAPTER**

By Deborah Medina

PFLAG Tinley Park is going strong with new attendees each meeting. We plan on welcoming some guest speakers in the coming months. Our meetings are held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 2pm at Zion Lutheran Church, 17100 S. 69th Ave., Tinley Park. Enter the glass doors at the south entrance. Also follow us on Facebook, PFLAG Tinley Park!



## **DuPage CHAPTER**

By Ron Whitfield

We had a great meeting in May. Our guest speaker was Christopher Nolan from Rush University Health System, who told us about Rush's commitment to, and support for, LGBTQ individuals. Christopher is the Manager of Community Benefit and Population Health for Rush. Perhaps more significantly, he is co-founder and lead of their LGBTQ+ Health Committee and sits on the system's Diversity Leadership Council, of which it is a part. Christopher emphasized his appreciation for the work that PFLAG does and the commitment shown by its parent members. He has extended us an invitation to Rush's Pride Month reception on June 28.

For more information about Christopher and Rush, visit <https://www.rush.edu/quality-care/commitment/community-service-quality-care-rush>.

Also see in the text box a warm note from Chris sent after the meeting.

Good Morning Don,

I hope that this message finds you well! I apologize for not getting back to you until today, but I want to thank you, truly, for welcoming me into your PFLAG family this past Sunday. I truly enjoyed spending the day with you all and look forward to a continued relationship in the future! Everyone's stories were so moving and I felt lucky and grateful to be a part of it. I also would love to extend an invite to our Pride Month reception at Rush, which is tentatively scheduled for June 28th in the afternoon / early evening. I actually presented to the Rush community during a lunch and learn on Tuesday and recommended PFLAG to a woman in the audience! I hope you don't mind me passing your contact info along? Thanks again for everything and I appreciated you, Margaret, and Will welcoming me on Sunday.

Looking forward to keeping in touch! Also, I want to make a donation to the chapter, as I had no cash on me on Sunday (and that speaker check was so kind yet unnecessary as it was my pleasure!). Please let me know where I can send it.

Thanks again and please keep in touch, Don!

All my best,  
Christopher



John (L), Christopher Nolan, Don (R)

### Recent Activities:

On April 30, the Hanson's (Gail, Paul, and Brittany) attended an exclusive presentation of the documentary "Gayby Baby" and a panel discussion about the families of same-sex parents. Bernadette and Ron, representing PFLAG, were panelists and spoke about how important it is for schools to be inclusive to children with LGBTQ+ parents, and how PFLAG could help with this endeavor. Here is a follow-up email from the organizer:

*Thank you for attending the exclusive screening of **Gayby Baby** and **Our Families: A Conversation** panel discussion in Chicago.*

*We hope you enjoyed the event. It's not every day you get to visit epic film directors, Lana and Lilly Wachowski's personal film production studio. But your friends will never believe you because you don't have a picture!*

*No matter the location, it's important for community to come together to share our stories, as LGBTQ+ folks, children of LGBTQ+ parents, and allies. When people are empowered to share their stories it leads to social and political change.*

*That's what **One Million Kids for Equality** continuously works toward—elevating the voices of LGBTQ+ youth and children of LGBTQ+ parents.*

*Please consider donating to **One Million Kids for Equality** <http://www.onemillionkids.org/shop/donate/> so we can continue to bring programming to other LGBTQ+ families in areas where it is desperately needed.*

*If you enjoyed the film, help get **Gayby Baby** to number 1 on iTunes by "Pressing Play for Equality" on May 1, International Family Equality Day. Download the movie for \$10 and send the message films like this matter.*

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/movie/gayby-baby/id1100536964?mt=6&ign-mpt=u0%3D4>.

In unity,

Theresa Volpe  
One Million Kids for Equality  
[\(312\) 804-0824](http://www.onemillionkids.org)

[B&R Note: Lana Wachowski and her sister Lilly Wachowski (also known as 'The Wachowskis') are the duo behind ground-breaking movies such as The Matrix (1999) and Cloud Atlas (2012). For pictures of their fabulous studio in Chicago visit <http://www.voa.com/portfolio/ravenswood-kinowerks>.]

### Announcements and Future Events:

Our June 18 meeting is on Father's Day. We will be showing a video.

July 4th we will be participating in the Wheaton Parade. Please join us! The theme is "Celebrate." This is an important year to have a strong PFLAG Family showing.

LGBTQ Youth and Family Picnic will be Saturday, August 27th at DuPage River Park in Naperville.

Illinois Safe School Alliance (ISSA) is hosting a 2016 youth Leadership Action Camp. Info at: <https://us.etrade.com/e/t/user/xfr?Target=/e/t/accounts/accountscombox>. They are also looking for Counselors: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1DOVRDzUfQd1FNedFkdPoxvh96rapHgYJK2rCyaHhww/viewform?c=0&w=1>

Please watch this video from the State Department (Loretta Lynch) is really good: first 7 minutes. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v=0XW7Myi6TBU&feature=youtu.be&t=7s>

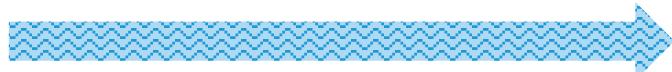
The US Department of Justice & Education released joint guidelines for school districts surrounding supporting transgender students in schools. <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/us-departments-justice-and-education-release-joint-guidance-help-schools-ensure-civil-rights>

Here are some great Andrew Solomon talks:

- [Andrew Solomon: Depression, the secret we share | TED Talk | TED.com](#)
- [Andrew Solomon: Love, no matter what | TED Talk | TED.com](#)
- [Andrew Solomon: How the worst moments in our lives ... - TED.com](#)

OUT in the Suburbs: Chicago Suburbs Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Resources & Events <http://www.outinthesuburbs.com/organizations.htm> Thought provoking article in The Atlantic: "The

**Counterproductive Politicization of Transgender Rights:** It's possible to get the right policies the wrong way." [Read the full story](#)



## Downers Grove CHAPTER

By Gloria

In May we watched and discussed two short videos. The first, [Berwyn School District 2015 Ally of the Year](#), shows the many ways this district has been successful in systemically supporting its LGBT students; and the video from [Stories Project: Now](#), features students' experiences in a different school environment. Watching them both was really an eye opener and led to some great discussion.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, June 8 at 7:00 p.m. at First Congregational UCC in Downers Grove, 1047 Curtiss St., and will feature a look at the changing world of sports through the LGBT perspective. *Join us!*



*Thank you, Marcia!*



## PFLAG Fundraiser Found Successful

The annual PFLAG "Kisses from Mom" fundraiser was held at Sidetrack on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. PFLAGers handed out kisses (both chocolate and real) to patrons and passers-by and asked for donations. 50% of the money that is raised at this event goes directly to Council and is used primarily for our spot in the Chicago Pride parade. The other 50% is divided up amongst the chapters that volunteer. It's a win/win all around.

Volunteering for the "Kisses" event is always personally satisfying as we receive such a warm welcome! There are also so many poignant stories. One PFLAG mom states, "A quiet man gave me a big hug . . ." and thanked PFLAG for being there when his own mom was not. Another PFLAG volunteer explained to two young men who wanted to know if PFLAG was for or against them exactly what we do. One individual admitted that the hug he received from a PFLAG mom meant he could finally celebrate Mother's Day; his mother had taken her own life soon after he was born, and he had never known love from a mom until then.

These stories and more remind us that our mission to support, educate, and advocate are what we do on Mother's Day and EVERY DAY!

We will be outside of Sidetrack again next year on Mother's Day, and I hope YOU will be there!

Marcia Prichason  
*Kisses from Mom Coordinator*  
Hinsdale Chapter



# Ways to get involved...



## Spectrum of Rockford LGBT Counseling

Support for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community



Harmony Center 6625 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Loves Park, IL 61111 815-639-0300  
[www.harmonycenterforlgbtpsychotherapy.com](http://www.harmonycenterforlgbtpsychotherapy.com)

## Welcome Spring-Summer 2016!

LGBT Pride in the Rockford, Illinois area is going well this year. We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter to find out about upcoming support groups, LGBT entertainment, and activism. June is pride month for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community. Check out the many Chicago and Milwaukee pride activities. Visit our Facebook page to find out the latest in LGBT events!

## You are invited!

Please join us for an Open House & to Meet Our Providers from the



**Wednesday, June 8th from 5 to 7pm**  
**1665 Larkin Avenue, Elgin, IL 60123**



As Open Door celebrates our one-year anniversary at our new location, we are preparing to celebrate 40 years of serving the Fox Valley as the premier provider of sexual health and wellness. We are proud to announce we are expanding services to better serve our community.

Enjoy live music and light hors d'ourves while you meet our medical & behavioral health providers skilled in:

*Sexually transmitted infection testing & treatment*

HIV/AIDS comprehensive care

Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)

Primary care for people who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender  
 Trans and Gender Non-Conforming hormone administration and monitoring

Please RSVP before June 6th at [www.odhcil.org/events](http://www.odhcil.org/events) or call 847-695-1093 ext. 250



PFLAG Hinsdale had a "shower" for 360 Youth Services during their May 1 meeting.

Carolyn Wahlskog, MSW, LSW, and Transitional Housing Program Manager was overjoyed at the items she received.

For more info on 360 Youth Services, check out their website:  
<http://www.360youthservices.org>

## BOOK RECOMMENDATION

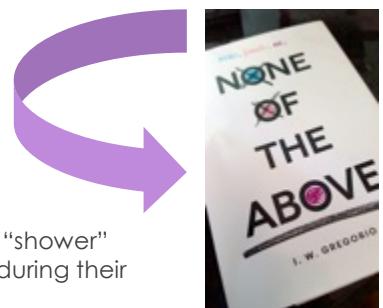
By Jackie Frett

### **None of the Above** by I.W. Gregorio

" A groundbreaking story about a teenage girl who discovers she's intersex . . . and what happens when her secret is revealed to the entire school.

Incredibly compelling and sensitively told, **None of the Above** is a thought-provoking novel that explores what it means to be a boy, a girl, or something in between.

*What if everything you knew about yourself changed in an instant?"*  
 quote from Amazon



## **IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO BECOME A MEMBER...SUPPORT PFLAG**

By becoming a PFLAG member, you will help provide support, education and advocacy. All information we collect from you on this form will remain confidential, and we will only share it within PFLAG.

Membership runs from October 1 to September 30; no partial-year membership is available.

Please check:

New Membership  Renewal Membership  Donation



(Name) \_\_\_\_\_

(Date) \_\_\_\_\_

(Address) \_\_\_\_\_

(City) (State) (ZIP) \_\_\_\_\_

(Preferred Phone  Home  Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

(E-mail Address) \_\_\_\_\_

(Notes or In Memory of  In Honor of) \_\_\_\_\_

### **MEMBERSHIP LEVEL:**

PFLAG Superhero \$500+  Parents Flag Waver \$100  Household/Individual Membership \$45 \_\_\_\_\_

PFLAG Hero \$250  Supporting Membership \$60  Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### **SELECT A CHAPTER:**

Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Hinsdale  Aurora/Fox Valley  McHenry  McHenry Parents of Transgendered Individuals  
 Deerfield  Chicago/Metro  Chicago Parents of Transgendered Individuals  
 Joliet  Kankakee/Will/Iroquois  Oak Park  Sycamore  DuPage  Downers Grove  
 Tinley Park  PTI North Shore

Check enclosed payable to PFLAG

Please charge my credit card ( Visa  MasterCard  Amex  Discover)

(Credit Card #) \_\_\_\_\_

(Exp Date DD/MM) \_\_\_\_\_ (CVV - V/MC/D 3 digits on the back - AX 4 digits on the front) \_\_\_\_\_

(Name on Card) \_\_\_\_\_

Please return form to your chapter representative or mail form and to:

**PFLAG Membership P.O. Box 734, Elmhurst, IL 60126**

**PFLAG Aurora/Fox Valley**

Meetings held 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday – 2 pm  
 New England Congregational Church  
 406 W Galena Blvd, Aurora 60506  
[pflagaurorafoxvalley@pflagillinois.com](mailto:pflagaurorafoxvalley@pflagillinois.com)

**PFLAG Metro Chicago**

Meetings held 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – 2 pm  
 Center on Halsted (Senior Room)  
 3656 N Halsted, Chicago 60613  
[pflagchicagometro@pflagillinois](mailto:pflagchicagometro@pflagillinois)

**PFLAG Deerfield**

Meetings held 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday – 7:15 pm  
 Congregation BJBE  
 1201 Lake Cook Rd, Deerfield 60015  
[pflagdeerfield@pflagillinois.org](mailto:pflagdeerfield@pflagillinois.org)

**PFLAG/PTI Sycamore**

Meetings held LAST Tuesday – 7 pm  
 Federated Church of Sycamore  
 612 W State St  
 Sycamore, IL 60178  
[pflagdekalbcounty@pflagillinois.org](mailto:pflagdekalbcounty@pflagillinois.org)

**PFLAG DuPage**

Meetings held 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – 2 pm  
 St Paul Lutheran Church  
 515 S Wheaton Ave, Wheaton 60187  
[pflagdupage@yahoo.com](mailto:pflagdupage@yahoo.com)  
[www.pflagdupage.org](http://www.pflagdupage.org)

**PFLAG Tinley Park**

Meetings held 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday – 2-4 pm  
 Zion Lutheran Church  
 17100 69<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
 Tinley Park, IL 60477

**PFLAG Downers Grove**

Meetings held 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday – 7p.m.  
 First Congregational UCC  
 1047 Curtiss  
 Downers Grove, IL 60515

**Please join us for any chapter meeting.**

If you are not comfortable meeting in a large group, arrangements can be made to meet one-on-one.

Contact any one of our chapters for more information.

**PFLAG Hinsdale**

Meetings held 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday – 2 pm  
 Unitarian Church Hinsdale  
 11 W Maple, Hinsdale 60521  
[pflaghinsdale@pflagillinois](mailto:pflaghinsdale@pflagillinois)

**PFLAG Joliet**

Contact Maria Prekop  
[maria.prekop@navigant.com](mailto:maria.prekop@navigant.com)

**PFLAG Will, Kankakee, Iroquois**

Meetings held 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 2-4 pm  
 1045 W River St  
 Kankakee, IL  
[plagkankakee@pflagillinois.org](mailto:plagkankakee@pflagillinois.org)

**PFLAG McHenry**

Meetings held 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday – 7 pm  
 Tree of Life Unitarian Church  
 5603 W Bull Valley Rd  
 McHenry 60050  
[pflagwoodstockmchenry@pflagillinois.org](mailto:pflagwoodstockmchenry@pflagillinois.org)

**PFLAG Oak Park**

Meetings held 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday – 3 pm  
 First United Church  
 848 Lake St, Oak Park 60304  
[pflagoakpark@pflagillinois.org](mailto:pflagoakpark@pflagillinois.org)

**Parents of Transgender (Chicago)**

Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday – 7 pm  
 Center on Halsted  
 3656 N Halsted, Chicago 60613  
[parentsoftransgender@pflagillinois.org](mailto:parentsoftransgender@pflagillinois.org)

**Parents of Transgender (McHenry) – NEW DAY**

Meetings are held the **4th Wednesday** – 7 p.m.  
 Tree of Life Unitarian Church  
 5603 W Bull Valley Rd, McHenry 60050  
[flynnmnb12@gmail.com](mailto:flynnmnb12@gmail.com)  
[marygenzler@hotmail.com](mailto:marygenzler@hotmail.com)

**Parents of Transgender (North Shore) - NEW**

Meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – 6 p.m.  
 Winnetka Presbyterian Church  
 1255 Winnetka Rd  
 Winnetka, IL 60093