

# Annual Report

**Out**  
BOULDER  
COUNTY

2017



-It's in to be out!



Out Boulder County's mission is to **educate, advocate,** and to provide **services, programs** and **support** to **LGBTQ** communities. We respect that there is a wide variety of opinion within the LGBTQ community and we will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression or identity, age, national origin (ancestry), immigration status, disability, health status, marital status, sexual orientation or military status.

## Staff Members



**Mardi Moore**  
*Executive Director*  
she/her/hers



**Michal Duffy**  
*Education and Program  
Manager*  
they/them/theirs



**Juan Moreno**  
*Development and  
Special Events Manager*  
he/him/his



**Lau Malaver**  
*Youth of Color Program  
Lead*  
they/them/theirs



**Christine Gibbons**  
*Volunteer Coordinator*  
she/her/hers



**Desi Blackmon**  
*Youth Program  
Coordinator*  
they/them/theirs

2017 Interns: Elliot Vann, Emily Myers

### Boulder Office

Office: (303) 499 - 5777  
Fax: (720) 328-6794

**Location:**  
2132 14 Street  
Boulder, CO 80302

**Mailing address:**  
PO Box 1018  
Boulder, CO 80306



### Longmont Office

Office: (720) 600-4138

**Location:**  
630 Main St.  
Longmont, CO 80501

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

Our deepest gratitude to **Sara Connell**, who left us in October 2017 after 3 years of important service to Out Boulder County and the community.

# Board of Directors

2018



**Kevin Ellis,**  
*President*  
(he/him/his)



**Krishna Pattisapu,**  
*Vice President*  
(she/her/hers)



**Claire Sudholme,**  
*Secretary*  
(she, her, hers)



**W. Ravyn Wayne,**  
*Treasurer*  
(he/him/his)



**Jodi Martin,**  
*President Emeritus*  
(she/her/hers)



2017

Jodi Martin, President (she/her/hers)  
Kevin Ellis, Vice President (he/him/his)  
Claire Sudholme, Secretary (she/her/hers)  
W. Ravyn Wayne, Treasurer (he/him/his)

## At-Large Members

Nicholas Bell (he/him/his)  
Jennifer Caracciolo (she/her/hers)  
Lori Dumler (she/her/hers)  
Alicia Forde (she/her/hers)  
Cole Hart (he/him/his)  
Frank Kogen (he/him/his)  
Fiona Martin (she/her/hers)  
Morgan Martin (she/her/hers)  
Aisha Nammari (she/her/hers)  
Brenna N. Penrod (she/her/hers)  
Jeff Woods (he/him/his)

Nicholas Bell (he/him/his)  
Jennifer Caracciolo (she/her/hers)  
Mary Dineen (she/her/hers)  
Lori Dumler (she/her/hers)  
Alicia Forde (she/her/hers)  
Cole Hart (he/him/his)  
Frank Kogen (he/him/his)  
Krishna Pattisapu (she/her/hers)  
Brenna N. Penrod (she/her/hers)  
Jeff Woods (he/him/his)

## Message from our 2017 Board President:

by Jodi Martin



As I reflect on 2017, it is best described as a year of strength and community. Throughout the year OBC has stood strong for our community and moved forward consistently to address its ever-changing needs.

We brought our community together for over 45 special events, including two Pride celebrations. We also brought the community together to march side by side in the Women's Marches in Denver along with thousands of others from across our state, and for multiple community building events. As part of our community building we have partnered with numerous other community organizations.

In addition to our home in Boulder, we relocated our Longmont office to increase our footprint in the Longmont community. The Longmont space has allowed us to increase our youth involvement, in addition to our ability to provide general community services to those that walk into or call our offices. We also secured LGBT liaisons in the Longmont and Boulder Police Departments.

The programming and services we offer continue to expand based upon the needs of our community. As a result, our services and programming touch every aspect of our community's lives. We have a diversity of programming unmatched in Boulder County.

Everything OBC does is made possible by our donors, volunteers, staff, board members, and our community. When you invest in our work, you are sending forth a tiny ripple of hope, a ripple we are carrying forward each day to create a current.

As your Board President for 2017, I was honored to be a part of the progress you helped us accomplish throughout the year. My presidency ended at the end of 2017, but I am honored to continue to serve you as the President Emeritus for 2018 and look forward to what OBC will accomplish in 2018 under the leadership of the new Board President, Kevin Ellis.

Please accept my deepest gratitude for your commitment to OBC and your community. I look forward to seeing you in 2018.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Martin'.

Jodi Martin  
President Emeritus

# Longmont Pride and Boulder Pride Week 2017

## Longmont Pride Week (6/19/2017 - 6/24/2017)

Longmont Pride 2017 saw greater community, involvement, and celebration than in past years making it our the most successful Longmont Pride to date! This past year also marked our very first Longmont Pride week, and we could not have made that possible without the involvement of wonderful community partners like Firehouse Art Center, Longmont Public Library, OASOS, La Ley Radio and many the many who came to get connected with resources, make new friends among the LGBTQ and Allied community, and celebrate Pride in the city of Longmont.



The week kicked off with Rainbow Storytime at the library followed by a series of wonderful events that week that totalled our attendance at 2,335, culminating in the festival itself on June 24th in the heart of downtown Longmont. With over 80 booths this year, a greater array of interactive activities, a larger youth and family area, the largest visibility march the event has had, and surpassing last year's attendees, Longmont Pride 2017 exceeded our expectations and surpassed attendance from prior years.

## Boulder Pride Week (9/4/2017-9/10/2017)

In 2017, Boulder Pride Week was packed full of events that saw an increase totalling over 5,100 participants for our annual week-long celebration. This does not include over 110 businesses and organizations that celebrated with OBC and the LGBTQ and Allied community, an increase over 2016.

The week kicked off on September 5, with the screening of *Real Boy*, the story of a transgender youth navigating through gender identity among other pieces in his life, at the Dairy Arts Center.

This was followed by our youth talent show, FACETS, in partnership with OASOS at its traditional venue, Shine Restaurant and Gathering Place. On the same day, we also hosted a Family Building Seminar and the Rainbow Elders Mixer, in partnership with Boulder County Area Agency on Aging.



The later half of the week continued with a very successful Happy Hour event in partnership with Deviant Spirits, and our annual Pride Party which was 80's-themed was hosted at The Studio. Dance and pole performances were done by the talented Haus of Fishcandy and Vertical Fusion Boulder, and music by DJ Jordan P.



This all led up to Boulder Pridefest, Big Gay 5K and Visibility March on Sunday, September 10 at Boulder Central Park. We not only expanded our Youth and Family Area by including new activities with partners like OASOS such as, Quidditch, dodgeball, youth performances and more! We also had our most diverse main stage line-up with performances including, ONDA Time, Samba Colorado and Marcie Smith. With a beer-garden packed for most of the day with attendees and reports of some vendors/exhibitors running out of materials, we know Boulder Pridefest 2017 was a great success and thank our dedicated volunteers, partners, staff and board in helping celebrate Pride in the City of Boulder.

## Major Events in 2017

**"Just Be" Party** -- On January 20th, Out Boulder County in partnership with Godot Communications hosted the "Just Be" Party at the formerly known Boulder House. We had over 300 attendees come through that evening who all enjoyed our wonderful DJ's, an exciting fire performance by Fractal Tribe, and more entertainment.



**LGBTQ Youth Dance** -- For the past two years, Out Boulder County, in partnership with OASOS, has hosted an LGBTQ Youth Dance. This event is geared towards LGBTQ youth in Boulder County who seek a queer safe space for them to be themselves, bring their partners, eat great food and make new friends. We had 123 youth from different schools throughout the county attend at the YMCA in Lafayette.

**The Garden Party** -- Our 11th Annual Garden Party rivaled all past years in attendance and money raised for our Youth Program. This year's theme was "We Are the World" in acknowledgement of the interconnectedness of all of our identities. Our generous and wonderful hosts welcomed over 200 people into their home. We made new friends, caught up with old friends and embers, and celebrated all those working to make an change for the LGBTQ community. Three wonderful individuals were awarded this year for their tireless and selfless commitment to not only making Boulder County, but the world a better place for the LGBTQ community.



**Ann Noonan** was the recipient of the Jack and Jean Hodges Big Hearts award. For over 30 years Ann has remained at the center of activism and support for the LGBTQ community. She was involved when the First United Methodist Church first became a reconciling congregation, has been involved with the Resonance Women's Chorus, and consistently has been a strong voice and presence in the community.

## Major Events 2017, ctd.

**Dorothy Rupert** was the recipient of the Clela A. Rorex Allies in Action Award for her many decades of work as an ally with her work as an educator, counselor, member of the Colorado Legislature and community member. Whether on the floor of the legislatures or on the steps of the Capitol for an LGBTQ Pride March, she could be counted upon to speak up for justice for all members of the community.



**Fayre Willmann** was the recipient of the Ignite and Inspire Youth Leadership Award. Fayre was the co-president of Silver Creek's PEAR Club, and not only supported it through tireless efforts and her time, but out of her own pocket as well.

**The Pool Party** -- Once again, Sunset Pool in Longmont was the site of our annual Pool Party. This event provides a safe, body-positive space where LGBTQ people and allies can have fun, relax and spend time with families and friends.



**The Holiday Party** -- Traditionally, OBC celebrates the year's accomplishments and volunteers with our annual Holiday Party, which also coincides with Colorado Gives Day. 2017 marked the first year that OBC hosted the event in Longmont, and it was a great success. 133 folks gathered at Longs Peak Pub and Taphouse on the evening of Tuesday, December 5, and enjoyed a night with food, drinks, a silent auction and community. We also included our youth giving tree which contained holiday wishes from OBC youth.

Additionally, we handed out our volunteer awards to those who had displayed outstanding commitment to the organization in 2017. **Josie Nixon, Nate George, Donnie Herrington, Justin Jones, Morgan Seamont, Christine Gibbons, Cristina Michaels, James Allison, Clela Rorex, Frank Kogen and Cacy Britton** were the recipients at our Holiday Party. Through volunteers like these, Out Boulder County is able to keep providing the community with consistent office hours, programs, events and much more. We are eternally grateful.





# Transgender Program Report

In 2017, the fruits of our labor of increasing transgender representation and participation in our organization and programming was evident. While balancing our mission and commitment to all sectors of our community, Out Boulder County has also made efforts to raise up the voices of our most marginalized. The active leadership of the Trans Steering Committee has helped to transform our organization to one that honors and celebrates the gender diversity of our all our community members. In addition to a strong volunteer and community leadership presence, we are also well represented in our staff and board, with half of our staff identifying in the trans spectrum. Strong, visible transgender leaders and role models are also crucial for our youth to see.



While we celebrate our success and growth in this realm, we are also continually reminded about the need to remain resilient and connected in our community. From the trans military ban, to grim mental health statistics of our trans and questioning youth in the Health Kids Colorado Survey, to challenges with discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations, access to competent health care and coverage, and basic safety, the need for strong organizing around transgender issues is still very evident and urgent. It is imperative that we continue to uplift transgender voices and follow their leadership on how we can best fulfill our mission.



We work to address these challenges and create the world we need with multiple approaches including support groups, education, and events. The Boulder County Gender Support group meets twice weekly, once in the Boulder Pridehouse and once in the Longmont office. This long-standing group served well over 100 unique individuals during 2017 and is part of why Boulder is known as a good place for transgender people to move and come out. The Trans and Gender Expansive youth group continues to meet twice monthly and serves as a smaller, more intimate setting for the 15 participating youth. This group works in concert with the larger LGBTQQ+ and allied youth weekly groups. Complementing these, we have a dedicated weekly group for Significant Others, Friends, Family, and Allies (SOFFA) of Transgender people that reached 18 people.

The Transgender Steering Committee continues to inform and influence OBC's programming, and again organized their signature SOFFA picnic in July with over 70 people, and the most successful Transgender Awareness Week (TAW) yet. Over 70 people attended the TAW film screening of MAJOR!, about the life and community efforts of black, transgender elder and activist, Miss Major Griffin-Gracy, followed by a panel discussion of local trans people of color. We absolutely packed the Longmont office with 80 people for a "Sharing Transgender Stories" panel with local transgender community members. Another 70 people attended and laughed the night away at our Comedy Show featuring trans comics Christie Buchele, Rachel Weeks, Janae Burris and Jaye McBride in tribute to the late, local transgender comic, Jordan Wieleba. Around 50 folks showed up for the Name Change Clinic to learn about and begin the process of updating their legal documents. We again filled the Longmont office, this time with 56 trans-identified individuals for the annual Transgiving dinner. Sharing this holiday meal and being in a room full of trans folks was one of the most heart-warming and powerful moments of the year. We wrapped up TAW with the solemn Transgender Day of Remembrance with over 80 people participating in the vigil and march, honoring and remembering the lives lost to transgender-based violence in the preceding year.

In addition to these events, we trained well over 800 local people about LGBTQ+101, sex, gender, and sexual orientation. We also had weekly transgender dance classes from Dec 2016-May 2017, hosted our annual community gathering for the TRANSforming Gender Conference presenters and attendees, and organized a Transgender Solidarity Gathering and a communication campaign to the US Senate and House of Representatives Armed Services Committees in response to the Trump's attempted military ban on transgender service members. In our Transgender programming and across our organization, we work to balance being responsive and being visionary. Thank you for your ongoing support and participation to make this possible!



# Youth Program Report

Out Boulder County's Youth Program continued to flourish in 2017.

In 2017 alone, we have directly served 235 youth throughout Boulder County. Our programming in Boulder and Longmont has remained solid in both attendance and positive feedback! Our year started with Night of Noise, Out Boulder County's annual event that was planned and emceed by youth intern and Project Manager, Fayre Willmann. After participating in Day of Silence, youth led a march on Main Street in Longmont to "break the silence". This was followed by a discussion on anti-LGBTQ bullying, led by a panel of youth who openly shared their personal experiences as well as how to address and report bullying. Guest speakers from Girl Scouts of America throughout Boulder County also spoke on school bullying policies and regulations. Afterwards, youth had opportunities to lead and/or participate in fun activities, as well as socialize and connect with other youth and GSA chapters!

In May, we held our fourth annual LGBTQ and Ally Youth Dance. This year's dance was called "Down the Rabbit Hole!" Youth had a fantastic time creating amazing Alice in Wonderland themed decorations including life-size Tweedledee & Tweedledum and Mad Hatter. Youth also helped create a walk-through hedge maze and a "tea party" complete with fun outfits and props! Community partners ran booths with information and resources for youth while dance goers enjoyed fun activities like arts & crafts, taking pics at the photobooth, and flamingo croquet. The dance was planned by two youth interns, Ellie Adelfang (Project Manager) and Sadie Roberts (Art Development), as well as the Planning Committee which consisted of 10 dedicated and motivated youth.

2017 was also our first year having a Youth and Family Area during Longmont Pride in June! Activities included making flower crowns, unicorn horns, and dodgeball. Our area was led by Griffin Jensen (then Out Boulder County's Youth and Program Coordinator) as well as Cardi Gilley, an amazing Out Boulder County volunteer who has been a solid support system for youth throughout these past few months.

At Boulder Pridefest in September, our Youth and Family Area was a huge success! Out Boulder County collaborated with OASOS, Natural Highs, and many more businesses to offer a variety of activities and workshops. Even though there was a lot of fun to be had playing Quidditch, creating arts & crafts, or participating in LGBTQ story hour, youth also took lead in running the Out Boulder County booth during the entirety of Pridefest! They offered information on community resources as well as distributed swag and pronoun pins to Pridefest attendees.

In December, Out Boulder County received generous donations from the community to provide gifts requested by our youth during the holidays. Many of these gifts consisted of gender-affirming items that youth did not feel safe to ask for

from their families or could not afford (ex: chest binders, packers, etc). We were fortunate enough to give youth every gift that was requested this year, and we look forward to the same opportunity next holiday season!

In addition to providing these events for our youth, we also continued our ongoing youth programming, which included our Art & Activism group, the Queer Creative 18-25 year old group, Longmont QT's group, Trans & Gender Expansive group, as well as Speaking Out panels in middle and high schools across Boulder County. In October, Out Boulder County hired a full-time Youth Program Coordinator and we are in the final stages of starting a Queer Trans People of Color youth group specifically for LGBTQ youth of color!



# Out Boulder County Programs

In addition to the many educational, social, informational, and cultural events, Out Boulder County also hosted a variety of social and support groups. All our adult groups are organized and led by volunteers with support from staff. Our groups are one way that we really shine as a community-led organization.



Our longest-standing and most well-established group is the Boulder County Gender Support group, which meets Tuesdays in Longmont and Thursdays in Boulder every week. Transgender, non-binary, gender-expansive, and those questioning their gender are all welcome as participants share their experiences and insight. The Gender Support group is so well-respected that community members have shared that its existence was a significant part of why they decided to come to Boulder County; they knew they would have support and community.



In addition to the gender support groups, we also have a support group for friends, family, and allies of transgender people called Supporting Transgender Friends and Family that has been meeting every Sunday evening. In this group, parents and siblings share their experiences and their process of understanding, accepting, supporting, and celebrating their transgender loved one(s).

In addition to being a supportive community, we are also an artistic and crafty community. Nudes with Tudes is a bi-monthly figure-drawing group featuring LGBTQ+ models. Models have shared how empowering and therapeutic nude modeling can be as they cultivate their own comfort and vulnerability in a safe space, and artists have the opportunity to explore the varied emotions and angles of dynamic LGBTQ+ models. Works in Progress (WIP) is an open group where folks drop in and work on their crafty projects together, casually chatting, sharing ideas, learning new tricks and skills, and fostering creativity. Attendees knit, crochet, pearl, sew, and share their projects. Knitting Man was a regular weekend knitting group that provided a charming community space for gay men to spend time together while working on projects. Sadly, as the year closed, this group also came to an end as the leader relocated.



Out Boulder County also organized off-site group meet ups to get folks out together in the community. Over brews, kombucha, and a wide variety of games, LGBTQ+ folks and their allies shared laughter and light-hearted fun at a monthly LGBTQ+ Board Game Night at the Twisted Pine Brewing Company. Rainbow Karma Yoga welcomed folks of all abilities, orientations, and gender identities to unify their breath, body, and spirit through movement in a safe, welcoming space that changed locations a few times, and has finally landed at Left Hand Yoga Studio.



This year also saw the formation of HOPE (Happy Open People to Enjoy), a pilot collaboration with the Association for Community Living, creating a space to bring together folks with intellectual and developmental disabilities who identify as LGBTQ+ or are exploring their sexual orientation and/or gender identity. The LGBTQ+ and Allies Community Café was also revived as a lunch-time roundtable discussion to explore a wide variety of issues relevant to the LGBTQ community. The Community Café has also become a forum for guests to visit, share their community projects, and engage with attendees.

Out Boulder County also supported unaffiliated groups through space usage and promotion. While these are independent groups, OBC feels its of vital importance to maintain connected relationships with these community partners. Queermunidad is a social meet-up for local Latinx LGBTQ+ folks. Queer Dharma is a meditation and philosophical discussion group for LGBTQ+ folks and their allies. Alcoholics Anonymous has a group meeting in the Pridehouse to create a space explicitly for LGBTQ people in recovery, and is complemented by an 11th Step meditation meeting that also gathers at the Pridehouse every week.

As you can see, we have a wide variety of groups that are essential to creating the welcoming and inclusive community we seek to cultivate. We hope for there to be a way for just about anyone to plug in and get connected. As we celebrate the diversity of interests and identities in our community, we also revel in our shared connection and commonalities.



## Speaking Out

Out Boulder County's Speaking Out Program is a volunteer speaker's bureau where members of our community from every part of the LGBTQ spectrum share their stories on a panel of three or four people. These panels mostly occur in middle and high schools, but we also occasionally hold panels in churches, other non-profits, college classes, and healthcare provider trainings. We're open to Speaking Out being a part of any group or event. After each member shares a 5-15 minute story about their life as an LGBTQ person or ally, the audience members have 30+ minutes to ask questions to specific members or the whole group.

Speaking Out is our longest running program at Out Boulder County. It provides Boulder County with LGBTQ visibility still so desperately needed for our youth. We have years of data supporting what we already know in our hearts, Speaking Out changes lives and saves LGBTQ people from isolation and fear. We are able to offer young people a safe place to ask questions and also diverse representations of what life can look like as an adult queer person, something youth almost never see in media or in their adult mentorships.

In 2017, our Speaking Out program reached over 1000 students and 200 adults. Speakers participated in 38 panels throughout Boulder County, including 14 schools and 3 community organizations. Stories of coming out to family and friends as well as the importance of active allyship were shared to help create safer environments for our local LGBTQ community and for LGBTQ students. Speaking Out continues to be one of Out Boulder County's most powerful and influential programs.

To Request a speaker or to become a speaker, please visit <http://www.outboulder.org/content/speakingout> or contact Out Boulder County at (303) 499 - 5777.

## 2017 Speakers

Alyssa Proulx  
Artie Thompson  
Brad Goodell  
Brandon Figliolino  
Cameron Trost  
Crissy Smidt  
Dana Samani  
Desi Blackmon  
Diane McKinney  
Ella Hansen

Haley Taylor  
Jasmine Suryawan  
Josie Nixon  
Juan Moreno  
Kallie Beebe  
Kelly Knowles  
Lindsey Lober  
Lior Gross  
Meagan Gibbons

Michal Duffy  
Nathan Lough  
Phil Wong  
Reed Oium  
Riley Mancuso  
Scott Beard  
Stanley Chu  
Tina Simpson



BE YOU!

# 2017 Annual Finance Report

## Message from our Board Treasurer

2017 was a challenging year for the LGBTQ community, as a change in administration saw an onslaught of legislative changes that brought up a lot of fears and concerns within our community.

2017 was also a year of tremendous growth in terms of our larger community pulling together and supporting each other, and meeting other similar minded organizations at the intersection of race, faith, gender and sexuality.

While the road ahead may be uncertain at times, we are held strong by our common bonds, knowing that our community has faced similar challenges before, and together we will weather this storm too. While we are a small organization, we are mighty and we are resilient. We aren't going back into the closet and we will never be silenced.

Thank you to all our donors in 2017. Without your contributions we wouldn't have been able to provide all the programs and services to our community that we've been able to provide, which are often life saving and more often, life changing.

Ravyn Wayne  
Board Treasurer

## Financial Summary

- 2017 saw tremendous challenges for our community, and our successes were directly tied to all our active donors like you. Two of our biggest challenges in 2017 were:

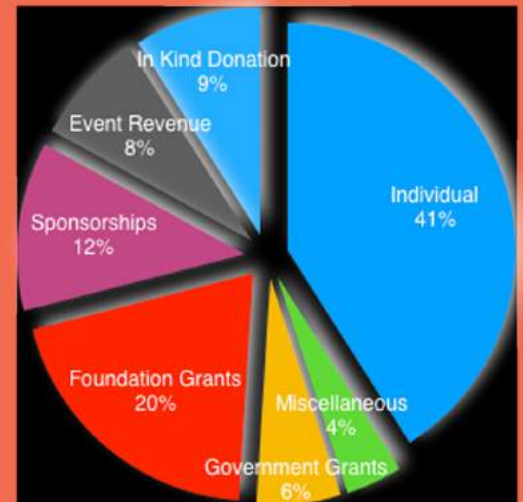
- How to better serve our youth
- Securing long-term space in Longmont

- We were able to expand our youth programming by moving our Youth Program Coordinator position from part time to full time, thus expanding services in Longmont and increasing frequency of our youth programs.

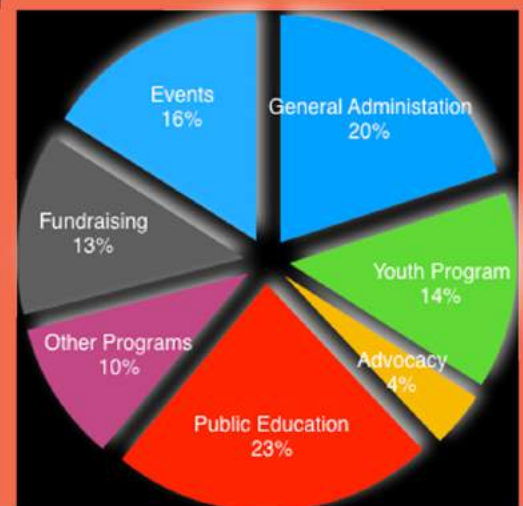
- We also faced community space issues in Longmont and needed to find a long-term partnership with a landlord in the commercial real estate market that supported our vision and mission. The commercial real estate market in Longmont is as challenging for a non-profit as it is to find affordable housing in the residential market in Boulder County. The search was long, and sometimes painful, but we are overjoyed with the space we found and the partnership we have established with our new landlord.

- Both of these changes to Out Boulder County highlight the growing demand for programs and services throughout Boulder County to support the LGBTQ community and couldn't have been possible without your continued and renewed support in our organization.

## INCOME



## EXPENSES



- For our donors, we pay close attention to our operating expenses to ensure that we maximize your generous contributions. 74% of your gift goes directly into our programs and services, while 14% is directly tied to our community centers in Boulder and Longmont and keeping our doors open (and the lights and heat on!).

- It's important to us as an organization that we show you where your contributions go. Whether it's to support our BOLD (Youth Programs), Queer Creative (Young Adult programming) our Events (Pride, Garden Party, etc), Transgender Programs or our education and advocacy work, we put every single dollar to good use in our community.

To make a donation to Out Boulder County, please visit: <http://www.outboulder.org/Donate>

# A Message from the Executive Director



Being the Executive Director of Out Boulder County (OBC) allows me to witness the pain, fear, hope, joy, and resistance of our lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) communities. 2017 was no different, but with a president and his ilk who continue to actively work to dismantle our rights and protections, most days were difficult and the worst days were heartbreaking.

In 2017, the federal government directly attacked our community including: rescinding Department of Education and Department of Justice guidance protecting transgender students' bathroom rights, sexual orientation and gender identity questions will not be asked in the 2020 Census, Neil Gorsuch is added to the Supreme Court of the United States, transgender troop ban, six members of the Presidential HIV/AIDS Advisory Council resign, and the list goes on.

Each one of these actions had an impact on our local community. We saw an increase in hate incidents and hate crimes, although reporting of these incidents to police continues to be low. We saw an increase in domestic violence reports and many in our community had mental health impacts that resulted in suicidal ideation or worse.

I too, have had days of hopelessness, and many of you carried me through some pretty tough days. When speaking on a panel at the Community Foundation I let the audience know that organizations such as OBC were stretched too thin and that the needs of our community are now stretching us in unimaginable ways. Individuals, corporations, and foundations began stepping forward with financial contributions, including the Rose Community Foundation, who reached out and said we are giving OBC a grant to support staff and volunteers in these tumultuous times. Terrapin Care Station even called me before I was out of bed on the morning of the trans military ban to ask what they could do to support the community.

These examples of care and support are just a few of the ways our community was able to strengthen during these times. So, in spite of these tremendous setbacks and the obvious more to come, Out Boulder County stayed true to our mission and continued advocating, educating and providing services, programs, and support to our community. In 2017, our organization touched just under 15,000 lives. In addition to growing presence and programs, we increased our budget to just over \$400,000 and were able to add a full-time Youth Program Coordinator, for the first time in our organization's history.

The strength shown by our community this year was beyond inspiring and buoyed me on days when my own hope was waning. Boulder County's LGBTQ communities are resilient, and as we say good-bye to 2017, we say hello to 2018. We are coming for you!

Sincerely,

*Mardi Moore*  
Mardi Moore

## Individual Donors

Aisha Nammari  
AJ Malcom-Reed  
Alexander Chen  
Alexis Miles  
Alyssa Marie Proulx  
Amanda Lee  
Amanda Lewis  
Amandeep Boyer  
Amaya V

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If we have inadvertently omitted or incorrectly listed your name, please contact Mardi Moore, Executive Director, at 303-449-5777

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*"Volunteers are not paid  
 -- not because they are  
 worthless, but because  
 they are priceless."*

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*"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" -Martin Luther King*



***"Out Boulder County is simply Amazing. The help they provide to all LGBTQ+ individuals in and around the county is incredible. I love the community they provide and for their support. OBC Keep up the great work."***

***"There could not be a more perfect place. absolutely top notch."***

***"Out Boulder County does amazing work in our broader community to promote the safety, inclusion and celebration of our LGBTQ+ community members! It is one of the reasons that I love living and Boulder County and one of the organizations that makes me SO very proud of my community!"***

***"Boulder's premier LGBT Advocacy and we're lucky for it!"***

***"A warm and welcoming place for LGBT folks, friends, and allies."***

***"This is an absolutely wonderful organization. Volunteers are coming and going but the message remains the same and the dedication to the members of the community that may need what is offered is a major benefit to Longmont."***

***"Quaint but nice little Queer community building. Very welcoming."***

***"Excellent organization that puts a lot of effort into the community here in Boulder County."***