

Annual Report 2014



Brooklyn Community Pride Center at Brooklyn Pride

Dear Brooklyn Community Pride Center Supporter,



It is with great excitement that I share with you our first Annual Report. Founded in 2008, the Brooklyn Community Pride Center serves Brooklyn's LGBTQ communities, with over 20 weekly support, advocacy, and arts and cultural programs. We have seen tremendous growth and countless successes since our founding. As the Executive Director of BCPC, I

wanted to take a moment to share our many accomplishments with you.

2014 was, without question, the Brooklyn Community Pride Center's most successful year. We are happy to report a remarkable jump in the number of those served by our programs and services - a 65% increase!

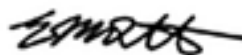
We have taken our Program Department to the next level, engaging with dozens of community organizations and institutions, and we continue to establish ourselves as a 'go to' community space. We have formalized our curricula across our programs and broadened our evaluation tools to ensure that we are providing high quality offerings to Brooklyn's LGBTQ community.

For any community center to thrive it requires engagement with and listening to the communities it serves. We continue to create and modify programs in direct response to community input. And the numbers speak for themselves; over the past year we have served more people and partnered with more organizations than ever before. We are a strong voice for those who are still finding theirs. Our programs help to ensure that each person we serve has the opportunity to find their voice and that it is heard, valued and honored.

This past years' work by our fearless staff, dedicated board, and tireless volunteers and interns has been incredible. I hope you will take a minute to read what we've been up to here in Brooklyn and will consider becoming more involved with BCPC in the New Year.

Finally, and most importantly, thank you for your support of BCPC. We would not be here without each and every one of you. This is YOUR center and OUR community! Looking forward to seeing you in 2015.

Warmly,



Erin M. Drinkwater
Executive Director

A Message from Our Chair

Dear Friends,

Since I joined the board in 2013, I've had the pleasure of watching this organization grow in remarkable ways. This Annual Report is a testament to the dozens of people who, through their time, talent and dedication, brought the Brooklyn Community Pride Center to where it is today!



From serving as a co-chair for this past year's Founders' Ball, to attending community events hosted by BCPC, I am truly humbled to be involved with such a wonderful organization. Meeting our heroes Edie Windsor and the late Stormé Delarverie, who were honorees at the 2014 Founders' Ball, was a true honor! For such a young organization, we have established ourselves as a noteworthy community resource in Brooklyn. While reflecting on this past year, I share with you exciting news: this year we established a Board of Governors, made up of our former board chairs who have contributed so much, and continue to be engaged in our vision.

BCPC provides critical services and support to some of the most disenfranchised members of our community. But we also provide incredible

opportunities for arts and cultural programming that celebrate the talent, vibrancy and creativity of Brooklyn's LGBTQ population.

This report is an opportunity for you to learn more about what we have accomplished over the past year. But to fully understand what we do and who we are, why not visit BCPC's office in Downtown Brooklyn?! You can participate in or volunteer for one of our programs. Or, just stop by and say hello to our staff, interns, and volunteers, who work tirelessly to ensure that the Brooklyn Community Pride Center is growing in a sustainable way to serve our community for decades to come.

I hope to see you at a program, event or fundraiser in 2015, because to not be involved in what is happening at the Brooklyn Community Pride Center means that you are missing out on being part of one of the most dynamic, engaged, and fun organizations Brooklyn has to offer.

Wishing you all the best this holiday season!

Deborah Brennan
Chair of the Board of Directors

Mission:

The mission of the Brooklyn Community Pride Center is to provide support and services to the borough's LGBTQ community through original programming and in partnership with existing organizations. The Brooklyn Community Pride Center provides a safe, common space offering physical and mental health services, social support, recreational and cultural programming, as well as being a hub of information for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals and families in Brooklyn.

Through promotion of the empowerment, development, and general welfare of the LGBTQ community with emphasis on gender, racial, and ethnic parity, we are committed to effecting positive change within our Borough, and the community at large.

Stay Informed:



Lgbtbrooklyn.org



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[Twitter.com/lgbtbrooklyn](https://twitter.com/lgbtbrooklyn)

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Dillon Seebalack, Youth/Development Coordinator
Tomas Raskevicius, Events Coordinator
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Programming

Programming at the Brooklyn Community Pride Center is central to our work; it is what makes BCPC a vibrant community space. During our six years of serving Brooklyn's LGBTQ population, we've seen ongoing changes in our programs, but what has not changed is our commitment to providing a welcoming and safe space that is responsive to the needs of our diverse community.

Through core programming, which consists of our YouthPRIDE, ElderPRIDE, Trans*GNC and Modern Families programs, combined with our Health and Wellness, Arts and Cultural, Community, and Special Events curricula, we aim to serve the myriad groups that make up Brooklyn's LGBTQ communities.

Below is an overview of our programs, with a look at how they've grown, changed and adapted based on the input and needs of BCPC members.

YouthPRIDE

2014 started off slow for our youth programs. We offered two days of Brooklyn Youth United programming, but the meetings were sparsely attended. Our youth showed up for programs like Gay-me Night, where they could engage in some friendly competition while playing board and video games, but overall attendance was low.

Recognizing the need to grow and strengthen our youth program, we recruited additional staff to execute our plan to expand outreach to LGBTQ youth. Then we rolled up our sleeves and got to work. We doubled down on outreach and engagement, participating in community and collaborative events. We hired a Youth Coordinator, and based on youth feedback, renamed the program YouthPRIDE. The program participants described this as more approachable and a more accurate representation of the social opportunities and activities they participate in as members of the group.

As our staff and intern capacity increased, we expanded our participation in the Kiki Coalition, a coalition of LGBTQ youth service providers in the ballroom scene, and visited more LGBTQ student clubs in schools and youth programs across Brooklyn. This included supporting college LGBTQ groups, as well as providing safer sex items to groups that didn't have a broad range of choices in this area.

Our youth program now meets three times a week:

- **Work Out Wednesdays**, where we schedule physical activities such as yoga, dance, Zumba and neighborhood walking tours
- **Hang Out Haven Thursdays**, where young people can come to hang out, participate in an activity of their choice or just get to know BCPC, our staff, and our community
- **FREE(ki) Fridays**, where youth participate in conversations around healthy relationships, conflict resolution, goal setting, and leadership development. We also use this as an opportunity to connect with young people informally.

In addition to this regular schedule of programming, we participate in events such as the New York State Department of Labor LGBTQ Youth Job Fair, the Beyond Tolerance conference, and more! In the spring, we hosted our first ever LGBTQ youth dance and met with a fantastic response. Along with a team of community partners, we are planning the first New York GSA Summit next spring, with the goal of building greater connections and support for LGBTQ youth leaders.

If you are interested in joining us, contact Dillon at dseebalack@lgbtbrooklyn.org.

Over the summer, we launched our **Out Summer Leaders** program, offering paid internships for youth to support community outreach and engagement, and to gain leadership skills as advocates for and in LGBTQ communities. Our Out Summer Leaders supported Touch Dinners for the HIV+ community by managing weekly food donation pick-ups, and created a banner for Before It's Gone // Take it Back, addressing gentrification in Brooklyn. Our OUT Summer Leaders participated in our intergenerational programs and made lasting friendships with some of our elders.

By the end of the year, our YouthPRIDE numbers increased dramatically. We served over 60% more youth in 2014 than we did in 2013! That's more young people participating in culturally competent programming where they are respected and celebrated for who they are; where they receive tools and resources about how to deal with bullying, strengthen their GSAs, are offered safer sex materials and information, and where they build their confidence.

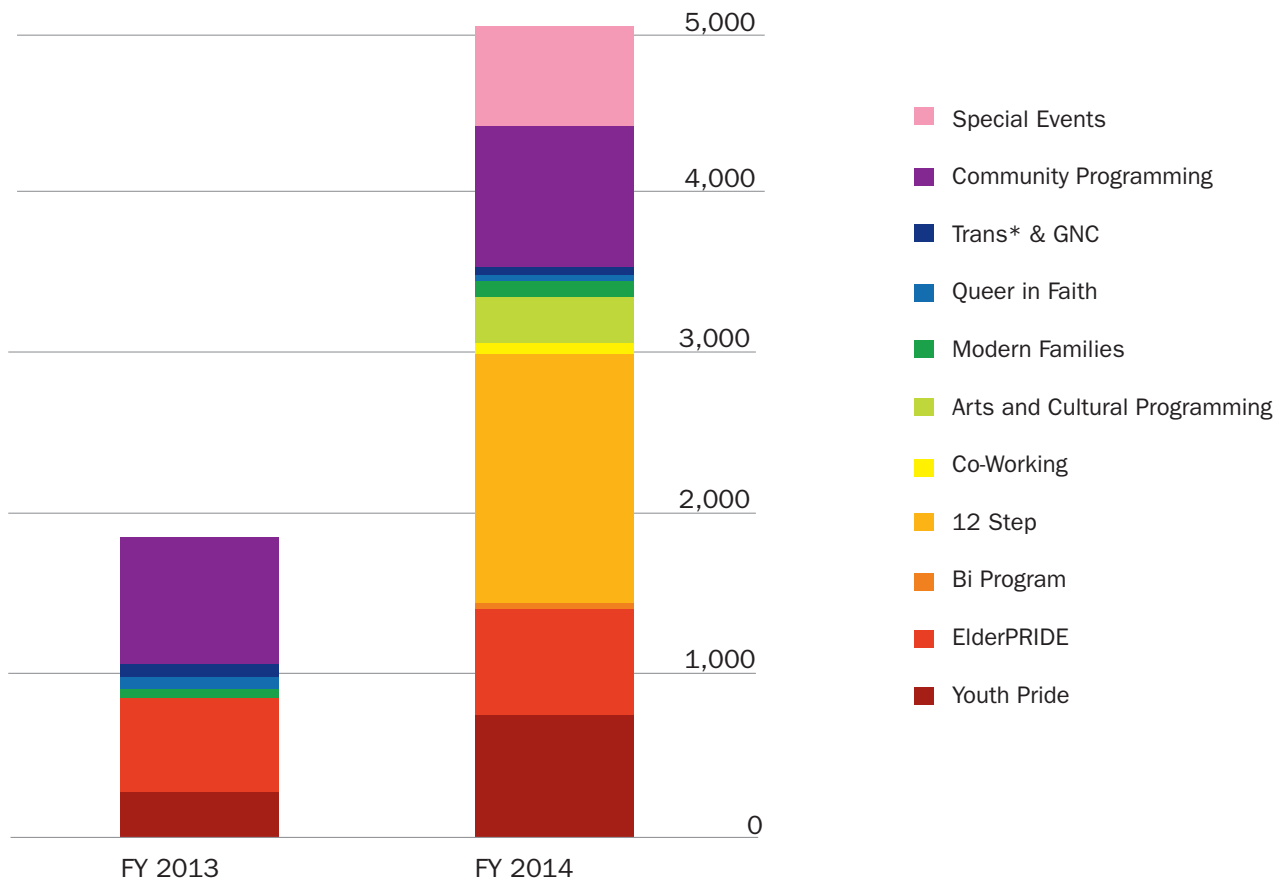
ElderPRIDE

Every Monday afternoon, LGBTQ elders gather at BCPC for ElderPRIDE, our social and activities group for LGBTQ elders. Members have told us Monday is their favorite day of the week because of ElderPRIDE! Thanks to our Board of Directors and with guidance from our staff social worker, we were able to bring on a Master of Social Work practicum student three days per week, whose job is to facilitate ElderPRIDE, and Some Like it Hot, our curriculum for elders in senior centers. This curriculum utilizes current and cultural events to initiate conversations about critical LGBTQ issues. Some Like it Hot participants have opened up about their LGBTQ family and children, and about their own transformative acceptance and affirmation of LGBTQ community. With increased capacity to facilitate Some Like it Hot, and greater accessibility of our office, our ElderPRIDE program numbers have increased.

We also partnered with Elders Share the Arts to offer 24 weeks of life story collaging for elders at BCPC, and featured some of their work on our walls for an art opening. ElderPRIDE took many field trips in 2014, including to the Aquarium at Coney Island, the Carousel in DUMBO, the Museum of Sex, the Public Theatre's production of Fun Home, a musical performance

Programming

A Growing Number of Program Participants



at Carnegie Hall and others. Many of these experiences and opportunities were possible through generous donations from these venues.

"Thank you so much for all of the joy we all had. The day was designed just right for us. I love 'US' as a group. The outing could have not been better."

Intergenerational Field Trip attendee

Trans* & GNC

Our Trans* and Gender Non-Conforming Support Group builds support and connection across many Trans* and non-binary identities and experiences. We began 2014 with a community forum on needs, experiences and vision for Trans* and GNC folks. Among the topics of discussion in the forum were ideas to increase and strengthen their support networks, cross-identity community work and intergenerational connection. This forum informed our Trans* and GNC support group as it moved forward through the year. Twice a month on Thursdays at 8pm, trans identified and gender non-conforming identified members come together to share, check in, ask questions and get support from facilitators and each other. Our Trans* and GNC support group

is looking for more facilitators so we can expand to weekly meetings.

Bi Program

In the face of bisexual invisibility, we recognized the need to offer bisexual programming. Volunteers tried launching a bisexual reading and support group, and then a general support group, but were challenged to establish consistent attendance. We continue to seek a long-term facilitator for bisexual programming. If you are interested in expanding BCPC's programs targeted for the bisexual community, please contact Sarah at shartzell@lgbtbrooklyn.org.

Modern Families

Modern Families is a gathering for LGBTQ families, specifically LGBTQ parents, to socialize, share stories, hear and learn from community leaders and others, and offer space for their children to play with children from other LGBTQ families.

Modern Families is run through volunteer facilitation, and staff or intern support. The group meets once per month at BCPC or for play dates off-site. The presence of ongoing family

Programming

programming is a key area for expansion and our dedicated volunteers are making this a reality by supporting group discussions or providing childcare for the ten to twenty parents who gather for Modern Families each month.

12-Step/Sobriety

Getting and staying sober is important for many LGBTQ people, as our communities have disproportionately high rates of substance abuse. Our move to the 4 MetroTech location provided more space to host 12-step and sobriety groups. By the end of FY2014 we were hosting 3 weekly Alcoholics Anonymous groups including the only Trans AA group in the city, and the only Crystal Meth Anonymous group in Brooklyn. Health services partners tell us they are glad to be able to refer to Brooklyn resources for their clients and we are happy to provide this critical resource to our community.

Wellness Programming

LGBTQ specific and affirming health care and information are plentiful in New York compared to many other parts of the country, however we still have unmet community needs for information, resources and care. Because of this, we host events and ongoing health and wellness programming, including partnering with organizations to offer HIV and other STI testing on site, as well as making referrals to community organizations such as Callen-Lorde, Lutheran Medical Center, the HEAT program and more. We hosted breast and chest health events and Affordable Care Act health navigator informational sessions to help people get signed up for the new insurance plans. Health professional and comedian Kelly Dunham hosted two events on repairing the relationship with our bodies, and self-advocacy in medical spaces. We advise medical services providers about competent and affirming care as they work to make their staff and services accessible to the LGBTQ community. Most recently, the Queer Mental Health Initiative has started hosting biweekly meetings at BCPC to provide peer led mental health support.

Arts and Cultural Programming

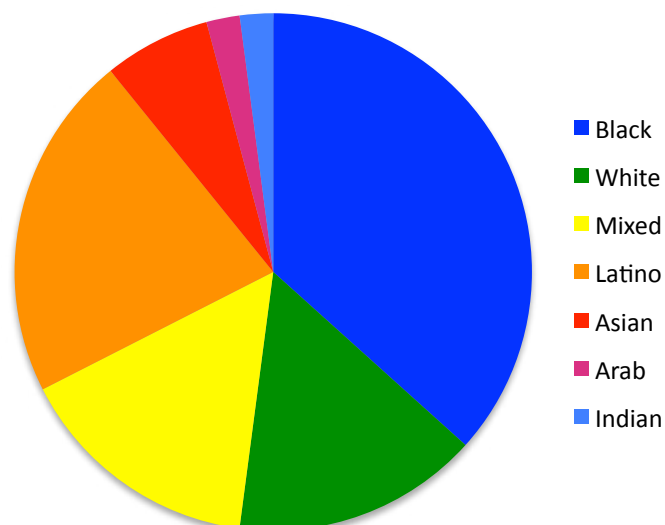
We view arts and cultural events as essential to our community. Through our arts and cultural programming, we strive to nurture the unique talents of our communities. We have a growing program of special events including film screenings, book readings and panel discussions. Thanks to the generosity of Poets & Writers, we were funded for a 15-week generative writing workshop series, In Real Life, led by poet Angel Nafis. BCPC has partnered with Circle of Voices, Inc. for a monthly women of color and women of African descent social gathering, called Women's Culture Night. Our 4 MetroTech location provides space to host and enjoy art openings featuring local LGBTQ artists. We partnered with artist Grace Mateo to host a series of workshops exploring body image through artistic expression, called the Make Me Pretty Project. And, we hosted readings by Prose & Lore writers from the Red Umbrella Project, and Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore. Many of our film

screenings were attended by the filmmakers themselves, who answered questions from audience members after the shows. Screenings included 'Turtle Hill, Brooklyn', 'Taboo Yardies' and 'TransVisible'.

"It is open to EVERYONE & yet held in a space that prioritizes underrepresented voices. I love being shoulder to shoulder with my community: queer, gay, straight, trans, and know that we are all seeking to express our lives more accurately and vividly to ourselves and one another. The space is a huge part of what makes this workshop so poignant for me."

In Real Life participant

Program Demographics



Community Programming

One of the many rewarding things we get to do at BCPC is support community members as they do amazing things. When someone comes to us saying, 'I have an idea' or 'I have a project and I want to start meeting' we get to say 'that's amazing, how can we help you?'. Sometimes it's with space, sometimes it's with supplies or extra facilitation, or volunteers. With community partnerships, we support the great things community members are creating and initiating. We increased our partnerships with other community groups, and expanded our capacity to facilitate discussions and activities, focusing on identity and life experiences. In addition, we help support community events, such as the Brooklyn neighborhood Pride celebrations throughout the summer. We host a free legal clinic every other week run by Le-Gal, offering referrals and legal triage. Groups such as the Red Umbrella Project, Persist Health

Programming

Project, and FIERCE have used our space for their meetings and events. The Audre Lorde Project trained our staff and board members, bringing us in as a Safe Outside the System site. We have partnered with Streetwise and Safe, The Pop-Up Museum of Queer History, the Center for Anti-Violence Education, and others to sponsor events at BCPC or to participate in BCPC programs. Through community programming, we are able to offer space and support to people who ask for these resources.

Queer in Faith

Queer in Faith was formed to provide space for LGBTQ people of faith to come together in spiritual fellowship. The group continued to find its way in 2014, with a small but consistent group of attendees. We partnered with Brooklyn Pride Inc. for the Pride Week worship service in June. Moving forward, we are focusing on partnerships and special events for Queer in Faith in the coming year. One of the Queer in Faith members now hosts a new worship service, Sacred Fellowship Ministries, at BCPC weekly on Sunday mornings.

Co-Working

Asterisk Queer Co-Working provides a space for freelancers and other independent workers to share space with others with the clear goal of getting work done. Sometimes we refer to this as adult study hall. BCPC began to host an existing co-working group in 2014. It brought new community members to the Center, forming a rich ground for the exchange of ideas, entrepreneurship and networking. Many Friday afternoons we found the Center full with people working on their laptops, being productive in a queer affirming space. It's one of the many ways we're engaging people outside traditional support groups.

Volunteering

Volunteer programs are a core of many non-profits. In the last year at BCPC, we've upped our ability and effort to engage volunteers to expand the reach and capacity of our organization. So many people tell us they want a way to give back to the community, and they've found it here. Volunteers support BCPC programs (such as the Trans* and Gender Non-Conforming Support Group), as committee members, administrative and development volunteers, event staff and community outreach teams. Have you seen a BCPC flyer out in the community? A volunteer probably put it there. We created the Out Summer Leaders internships as part of our youth programming, we've taken on practicum students from Masters of Social Work programs (Hunter in 2014), and Human Services students from CUNY City Tech and Gerontology at CUNY York. Their hours at BCPC have supported YouthPRIDE and ElderPRIDE, increased our capacity for referrals, helped organize our fundraising events and improved our program tracking and reporting. Staff work hard, but volunteers make this Center run!

OUT Summer Youth Leader

My summer at the Brooklyn Community Pride Center was hands down the best summer I've ever had! What initially intrigued me about BCPC were the various leadership opportunities they provided for queer youth like me. I strive to be a leader in my school and community at large, and often found that my age restricted me from doing a lot of the things I always wanted to do. BCPC really allowed me to take the initiative, even though I was the youngest one working there. During the 2 months I was there, I met with several activists who facilitated trainings on various topics revolving around the lgbtq+ community. I learned so much information, ranging from queer history to STI/HIV protection. From the knowledge I gained to the friendships I made, I was able to come to terms with my own identity and get over my shyness. With the skills provided to me, I can now openly speak out about the challenges that I face as a queer teen and be comfortable in my own skin. One of the best experiences I had with BCPC was my all expenses paid trip to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where I met youth activists from over 40 states across the country all fighting against discrimination in schools and creating safe environments for those who are victims of oppression. While there, I made tons of connections with other organizations and even met Cece McDonald! Working with BCPC trained me to be an even better leader in my school! As President of my school's GSA (Gay-Straight Alliance), I work to instill safe space and tolerance within the classrooms. For Queer History Month, I was able to get James Clementi to come speak out to my peers about his story and his brother's, Tyler Clementi. Also, we had the biggest turn out ever at our first GSA meeting this year! My summer internship really allowed me to take charge in my school and change the atmosphere of my community. I owe so much of who I am today to the staff at the Brooklyn Community Pride Center and continue to participate whenever possible.



Manny

Founders' Ball



BCPC Board of Directors

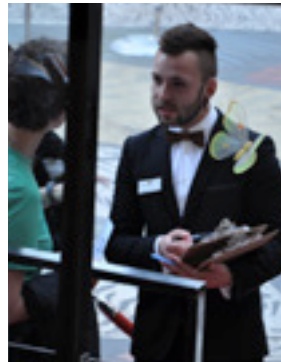
In April, the Brooklyn Community Pride Center honored two heroes of the movement: Edie Windsor and Stormé DeLarverie. Edie Windsor changed history when she decided enough was enough and sued the federal government for a refund of federal estate taxes levied on her following the death of her wife Thea Speyer in 2009. Because DOMA defines marriage as between a man and a woman, the IRS was prohibited from treating Edie as a surviving spouse who would not have been subject to the estate tax. June 26, 2013 will go down in history where Windsor joined other names such as Brown, Loving, and Lawrence. And Stormé DeLarverie who performed with the legendary Jewel Box Revue in the 1950s and 60s touring the black theater circuit as the act's sole male impersonator. Stormé played an integral role in the Stonewall Rebellion in June of 1969 and later would become a founding member of the STONEWALL Veterans' Association. Stormé was well known as a security guard at local West Village watering holes, but she was more than that, she was a fierce defender and protector – a warrior.

Platinum event sponsors: BFC Partners, Citi Community Development, and The Williams Capital Group, LP were joined by over 250 guests to raise necessary funds for the Brooklyn Community Pride Center. Our co-chairs, Debbie Brennan and David Kooy led our efforts for our most successful fundraising event to date!

BCPC raised over \$85,000 to support and sustain our programming. The event included a wonderful silent auction and a live auction that was as entertaining as it was successful – thank you to all of our auction donors. A big thank you to all of the volunteers who made the Founders' Ball a great success, especially our partners from Citi Pride.



Co-Chairs Debbie Brennan and David Kooy with honoree Edie Windsor, BCPC Executive Director Erin Drinkwater and honoree Stormé DeLarverie



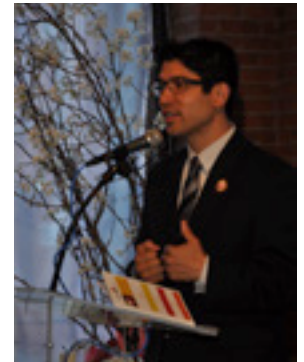
BCPC Events Coordinator,
Tomas Raskevicius



Public Advocate Tish James hugs BCPC ElderPRIDE
Member Barbara



Citi PRIDE volunteers are ready for the fun to begin!



Councilmember Carlos Menchaca

SAVE THE DATE
for
Brooklyn Community Pride Center's Gala*
April 23, 2015

*formerly The Founders' Ball



Stormé DeLarverie
In Memoriam December 24, 1920 – May 24, 2014

Community Partners

Community partners are organizations we work with and alongside to best serve our communities together. Sometimes this means collective group facilitation or community outreach, sometimes it means shared advocacy work, or working on committees together. Many of our community partners use BCPC's space for some of their own programs or events when their own spaces aren't large enough. Our partnerships are based on various shared goals, serving the LGBTQ community, serving Brooklyn, social justice, serving runaway and homeless youth, offering HIV testing, safer sex and STI information and resources - just to name a few.

Youth

Gay Men of African Descent (GMAD)
The Forum Project
Health Education Alternatives for Teens
(HEAT) Teens Helping Each Other (THEO)
Streetwise and Safe
GSA Network
GLSEN
Hetrick Martin Institute
Ali Forney Center
Grand Street Settlement
Center Youth
JAIA YOUTH Empowerment
FIERCE
SCO Family Services
El Puente Bushwick Leadership Center
The Door
Project Reach

Health

AIDS Health Foundation
STAR Health Clinic
Callen Lorde
Brooklyn Hospital
Project Voice - Lutheran Medical
Center Wyckoff Hospital
GMHC
Lesbian Cancer Initiative

Seniors

GRIOT Circle
SAGE
SAGEWorks
Brooklyn Public Libraries

Schools

Pratt
Brooklyn College
Brooklyn Law School
Fashion Institute of Technology
(Manhattan) NYU Poly
CUNY City-Tech
Borough of Manhattan Community College
Brooklyn Technical High School
The Urban Assembly School for Law and
Justice Brooklyn Latin School
Uncommon Charter School
Brooklyn Friends School
Poly Prep
LAB School (Manhattan)
High School for Medical Professions
Kurt Hahn High School
Brooklyn Generation High School

General

Red Hook Initiative
Red Hook Community Justice Center
Brooklyn Public Library
Circle of Voices
Make the Road New York - Globe
Bushwick Anti-Violence Project
Center for Anti-Violence Education
Audre Lorde Project
Sands House
Red Umbrella Project
CAMBA
Brooklyn Men Konnect
Le-Gal
Lambda Legal Defense Fund
South Brooklyn Legal Services
GAYFACE
Housing Works
Touch Dinners
TALDEF
LGBT Center of Manhattan
Family Equality Council
Catholic Charities
THRIVE

Community Events

Black Pride
Harlem Pride
Bronx Pride
Brooklyn Pride
Bushwick Pride
Bed-Stuy Pride
Red Hook Pride
Trans Day of Action Trans
Day of Remembrance
Youth PrideFest

Coalitions

Kiki Coalition
NYC Association of Homeless and Street-Involved Youth
Organizations Access to Condoms Coalition
LGBTQ service providers working in schools (forming)
Advocacy Institute
Senior Umbrella Network of Brooklyn
Volunteer Coordinator Newtork - AVP
Empire State Pride Agenda Network
SCO Family of Service's Close to Home Brooklyn Community Advisory
Board Communities United for Police Reform

Senior Centers

Bay Ridge Senior Center
St. Charles Jubilee Center
Prospect Hill Senior Services
Center

Staff Profile



Dillon Seebalack,
Program and Development
Coordinator

Dillon was born in Trinidad and Tobago, but was raised in New York City. He grew up in a traditional Indo-Caribbean household facing many of the common struggles that families in America currently endure. In addition to these obstacles, Dillon was also facing the fear of his own sexuality - being something that is not accepted in his family.

When he was 14 years old Dillon was diagnosed with sickle cell anemia. The overwhelming physical pain that came from his medical condition, then paired with the mental harshness of

being secretly queer was overbearing to the point of depression. He ended up dropping out his freshman year of high school, however that was not the end of his hardship. Within that same year his grandmother passed away, the one person that seemed to have never given up on him.

The last thing Dillon promised his grandmother before she passed away was that he would at least graduate high school, since it meant so much to her. The educational opportunity was never offered to her, but she made sure it was granted to Dillon and the rest of her family. Following his promise, Dillon picked his head up and rejoined the public school system.

Still not having the support that he needed at home especially now that his grandmother was no longer around, Dillon needed an outlet to explore his closeted attraction to the same sex. He discovered The LGBT Center's youth program that was at the time named, "Youth Enrichment Services" (YES). This was the place that ultimately gave him the essential tools around LGBTQ issues and cultural competency that led him straight towards his path at Brooklyn Community Pride Center today.

Although Dillon's original purpose for walking through The LGBT Center's doors on December 17th, 2008 was to simply find support through meeting others like him, it was a decision that ultimately would impact his life beyond that. It expanded his world as he knew it. He remembers the exact day he had his first visit to YES because that's how important it was and still is to him. A true life changer.

Dillon began exploring the opportunities at YES. He applied for internships back to back. He became a Youth Organizer influenced by queer activists such as, bell hooks and actively participated in events such as the annual dyke march. He then became a youth event planner putting on events such as parties and programs promoting sexual health in the community. He has also served as a popular opinion leader where he first learned and effectively practiced the harm reduction model.

Dillon then set his eyes on becoming a Family Group Leader for YES's annual residential week of "gay camp." This was a huge leap for him because it meant living in a cabin with LGBTQ identified youth, supporting and guiding them through the week. He ended up serving as a Family Group Leader 3 years in a row and has attended camp for 5 years. This is where he dove deeper into HIV/AIDS, body image, substance abuse, and other topics affecting queer youth.

After having the experience of his first year as a Family Group Leader, Dillon knew that he wanted to do something in life that allowed him to empower LGBTQ youth. He didn't stop building on his skills. He became a peer educator and the year after becoming a peer educator he then became YES's first ever, peer education youth consultant. This is where he learned skilled facilitation around LGBTQ sensitive topics and was then able to train and assist his peers with creating curriculum and facilitating a group of their peers.

Dillon also became YES's first ever R.O.A.R Youth Advisor. R.O.A.R is an acronym for Responsibility, Opportunity, Action, and Results. He mentored queer youth working towards 3 measurable personal goals and one service learning project that resulted in a community event.

When the LGBT center was attacked in Tel Aviv Israel, some of the youth that attended that center were able to fly to New York for a visit. Dillon served on the welcoming committee - taking the visitors to the largest LGBTQ friendly synagogue in New York City and showing them around town. Dillon is also a founding member of YES's youth advisory board. Throughout the years he managed to keep his artistic gears flowing. He has been part of "The New Agenda" dance group for the past 6 years and he completed his 9th and final "Youth Pride Chorus" performance earlier this year. Both groups focused on empowerment of LGBTQ youth.

There were so many paths Dillon's life could have taken, but if he didn't have the essential support that he received from attending The Center's youth program, life probably would have turned out differently for him. He would not have discovered his calling to the human services profession at such a young age. Dillon thinks that every young person, no matter their sexual preference, should be able to thrive the way he did once he found a place willing to nurture him as a whole person.

Now, at Brooklyn Community Pride Center, he gets to provide that safe environment for youth to explore who they are. He can pass on what was taught to him and grant multiple young people the opportunity to be the best that they can be and discover greater things about themselves that society can often times discourage when it comes to members of the LGBTQ community. Dillon remembers how it felt growing up in the closet, in fear of homelessness, bullying, and lacking support both at home and at school. BCPC's YouthPRIDE program serves as that LGBTQ haven for youth.

Dillon currently attends New York City College of Technology majoring in Human Services. His first encounter with BCPC was through his practicum internship back in the fall and winter seasons of 2013.

Through his many leadership experiences, Dillon has gained a strong sense of LGBTQ issues and the need for services to counteract them. Being at Brooklyn Community Pride Center allows him to continue his work, journey and dream.

Donors

CHANGE MAKER • \$10,000+

Anonymous
BFC Partners
Citi Community Development
Classic Party Rentals
Henry van Ameringen
Williams Capital Group, LP

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Catharine Hough and Keryn Lowry
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MBD Designs

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NBA Cares
John C. Riedel

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SUPPORTER • \$240 to \$499

Liz Abzug
Robert Biegen
Mary Blanchett
Diana Callaghan
Ryan Davis
Joseph Fisher
Reg Flowers
Leonore Gordon

Marla Hassner
Brian M. Kenny
Thomas Krevier
Carol L. Marker
Matthew T. McMorrow
Andrew Miller
Hon. Richard J. Montelione
Kirk Mueller
Caroline Noseworthy
Pillow Cafe-Lounge
Mary Reilly
Melissa Rowe
Senator Daniel Squadron
Wendy Stark
Monique Stokes
Matt Sturiale
Mark Thompson
Brandon Travan
Fiona Travers
Thomas Tuccillo
Alan Washington
Bob Zuckerman

GOOD NEIGHBOR • \$120 to \$239

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Charles Branstool
Thomas Burrows
Moises L. Cascante
Linda Dougherty
Lucille Ferrari
Lina Franco
Sandi Franklin
Sara Gillen
Mary Going
Jacob Goodman
Robert M. Gotthiem
Edward Haggerty
Courtney Harris
Christopher Hawkins
Jess Huckemeyer
Joseph A Kopitz
Jeffrey Leeds
Hon. Joseph Lentol
Perri Litton
Erika Lorshbough
Ken Marable
Lisa Markuson
Dean Mohs
Tom Ott
Maureen Ramaccia
Jennifer Rish
Donnie Roberts
Richard Russo
Donna Scott
Jo Anne Simon
David C. Smith
Latoya Stuckey
Michael Swirsky
Ted Thompson
Bela August Walker
Mindi Wernick
Margaret Williams

MEMBER • up to \$119

Renee Alberts
Robert Anderson
Greg Arroyo
Steve Askinazy
Sunny A. Bjerk
Elana Blank
Julie K. Bolcer
Arthur Bouie
Andrew D. Brewer
Brian Brewer
Rose Brook
Kassie Brown
Matthew Brown
Mary Bruch
Mary Buckley
Melissa Brunder
Jacquelyn M. Burrows
Monica Byrne
Michael A. Cairl
Linda Carlson
Matt Chang and Wayne Brown
Rose Christ
Karina Claudio-Betancourt
Jean Colebank
Cathie B. Coleman
Holly M. Coleman
Megan Collum
Katherine Constabile
Mary L. Cooley
Jeff Cubeta
Marjorie Dambreville
Ian Danic
Bridget De Gersigny
JoAnn DeTomaso
Kenneth Diamondstone
Erin Drinkwater
Daniel Dromm
Timothy Durbin
Scott Dwyer
Justin Early
Magdalena Escobedo
Carolyn Farhie
Emily Findley
J. Eric Fisher
Alan Fleishman
Kimberly Forte
Andres Freyre
Edgar Galloway
Katherine Gegg
Greg Jude Geiger
Amy Gilday
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Daniel Hurewitz
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Sarah A. Jaramillo
Dany Johnson
Jahmila Joseph
Ann Kansfield
Shannon Karam

Marc Karavasian
Maura Keaney
Anne Keenan
Charlie Ken
Kelly Kochendorfer
Denise Krenski
Lauren Lee
Nancy Leeds
Jeffrey LeFrancois
Braeden Lentz
Joshua Levin
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Richard Joseph Majewski
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Peter Martinez
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Andrew Miller
James Miller
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Deinya Phenix
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William Rollo
Alexander Roque
Akilah Rosado-McQueen
Elvin Roytman
Eric Sachsenmaier
Bobbie Sackman
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Melissa Scarlino
Dillon Seebalack
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CB Stewart
Mandy Steward
Farra Trompeter
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Eugene Walsh
Mark Wise
Evan Wolfe
Patrick Yacco
Joan Zimmerman

MEDIA SPONSORS

Gay City News
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Finances



BCPC celebrates Halloween

REVENUE

Foundation Grants	112,019.36
Public Support	48,708.38
Governments Grants	47,500.00
Events	98,834.78
Board Support	12,591.00
TOTAL*	\$319,653.52

EXPENSES

Program Cost	164,737.64
Special Events	21,876.58
Fundraising	35,830.79
General & Administration	79,309.98
TOTAL	\$301,754.99

*Restricted Capital Campaign Gift of \$10,000 excluded



Intergenerational Library Trip



Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore book reading: The End of San Francisco



Executive Director Erin Drinkwater and Board Chair Debbie Brennan at the Athlete Ally Action Awards with Jason Collins.



Museum of Sex Outing

BCPC in the Community



Brooklyn Community Pride Center at Bushwick Pride



Give Out Day Thank You 2014



Youth Pride members with Laverne Cox

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OUT Summer Interns 2014