



Annual Report

FY2016



CONNECT TO YOUR CENTER

<http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/>



From the Executive Director

“Connect to your Center” is not just our motto. It is a deeply held belief that connection to self and community is vital in a technological world growing more disconnected and isolated.

The Brooklyn Community Pride Center is the center of the LGBT+ community in Brooklyn. We transform the marginalized into leaders; the scared into the empowered; the victim into the advocate. LGBT+ Brooklynites are safe and celebrated here regardless of what might lie beyond our doors.

And it's a place of real connection: eye to eye, hand to hand, heart to heart – an authenticity often absent in our technological world.

This report summarizes our accomplishments, challenges, and opportunities. Looking forward through the lens of our “2020 Vision” strategic framework, the organization is embarking on its most ambitious growth plan in its history. From July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 we made significant strides thanks to the many, many remarkable stakeholders in our community to whom I am deeply grateful.

Included here is a growing list of supporters, both individual and institutional, who are investing in our vision. To all....Thank you! And I am confident that the coming year will continue to build on your investment.

Yours in community,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Floyd Rumohr', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Floyd Rumohr



2016 Heritage Pride March participants

Photos contributor: Mike Bergin

Vision and Value Proposition

Our vision is to establish thriving, diverse community hubs where LGBT+ people and our allies are celebrated in New York City's largest borough.

Across the spectrum from young people to elders, the Brooklyn Community Pride Center enables our community to actively participate in positive, life-affirming activities. We offer a distinctive choice for residents of New York City's largest borough to celebrate, heal, learn, create, organize, relax, socialize, and play.

Mission

The Brooklyn Community Pride Center provides services and support to the borough's LGBT+ community through original programming and partnerships with exemplary organizations.

Program Areas



Youth Age 12-24

- Established in 2011
- Unique visitors: 310
- Contact sessions: 924
- Peer led discussions and educational forums
- Bullying, HIV/AIDS, coming out, accessing resources, writing groups; healthy recreational activities through field trips, dances, and outdoor adventures.



Elders Age 50+

- Established 2012
- Unique visitors: 40
- Contact sessions: 138
- Ongoing psycho-social support group and intergenerational activities that include theater making, computer literacy, and more.

"The Center is a place where you can be yourself."

- Amari, YouthPRIDE



Transgender and Gender Nonconforming (TGNC)

- Established 2013
- Unique visitors: 188
- Contact sessions: 353
- Mental health and other support services specific to the unique needs of LGBT+ identified and spectrum identified individuals
- Trauma, sexual assault, physical abuse, and general discussions/activities.



Arts and Culture

- Established 2016
- Unique visitors: 141
- Supports emerging LGBT+ artists as well as community members who seek to find their own artistic voice.
- 2016 highlight: LGBTQ New Americans Project in partnership with Immigration Equality. The project tells the stories of LGBTQ immigrants and refugees living in Brooklyn. Oral histories are currently online at <http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/lgbtq-new-americans-project/>



Community Partners

- Established 2009
- Number of partners: 15
- Total unique visitors: 356
- Total contact sessions: 1,540
- 12-step groups, support groups, HIV testing and counseling, worship groups.
- For current listings, please visit <http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/12step-support/>

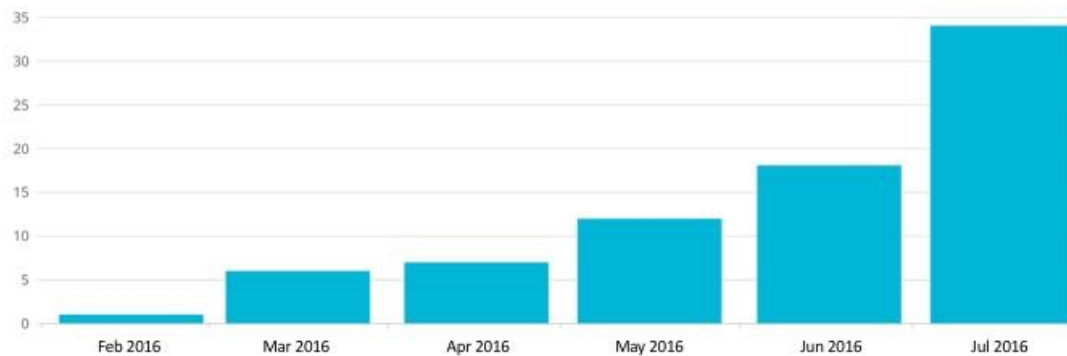
***“You could get beaten, lynched....
Just being different puts you at risk for being locked up for fourteen years.”***

- Oliver, LGBTQ New American
Country of origin: Nigeria

Milestones

- **Board Giving:** Ours is an incredibly diverse and giving board. Under Debbie Brennan's leadership, the board at large contributed \$50,762 in direct cash gifts and soft-credits. Further, the board represents 100% giving from each member in keeping with personal resources.
- **2020 Vision Framework:** Following conversations with community stakeholders, the Brooklyn Center released its first draft of "2020 Vision: A Conceptual Framework for Brooklyn's Twenty-First Century LGBTQ+ Center." Next steps will involve three-year pro-forma budgets with specific tactics and financial targets after incorporating stakeholder feedback.
- **On the Move:** Negotiations to move the Center from its existing location at 4 MetroTech Center to 1360 Fulton Street (Restoration Plaza) were reaching the final stage as of this report.
- **Branding Redesign:** By March 2016, the organization had completely redesigned its online presence. Website enhancements included a fresh new look, integrated donor management systems, and more pleasant user experience. In addition, gala materials were rebranded and modernized. The entirety of pro-bono support by Stephen Rainforth represents \$49,900 of professional services.
- **Increased Subscribers:** Since January, subscriptions to our mailing were on a strong upward trend, which we attribute to the new website (since subscribers must go there first), public visibility via increased media presence, and the LGBTQ New Americans project because of its online presence.

New Mailing List Subscriptions



- **Restructuring:** Ours is a people business and there was a lot of it. FY16 was a year of big change: a new executive director and new staff. Special thanks to Dolph Goldenburg for his interim executive leadership and for facilitating the national search for a regular ongoing executive director. Challenges include consistent turnover of part-time talent who accept full-time employment.

Executive Transition



Dolph Goldenburg
Interim Executive Director
March 2015 – January 2016



Floyd Rumohr
Executive Director
January 2016 - Present

Full-Time Staff



Sarah Hartzell
Program Director
June 2013 – January 2016

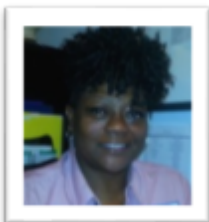


Dillon Seeblick
Youth/Development Coordinator
March 2014 – Present

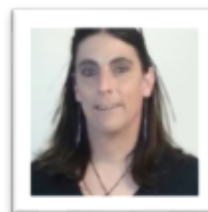
“We conducted an extensive, nine-month search to fill this important position and vetted over 250 candidates from across the country. Without a doubt, we found the best candidate in Floyd to lead the Center’s next stage of growth and expansion.”

- Debbie Brennan, Board President

Part-Time Staff



Missy Bolds
Bookkeeper
July 2016 – October 2016



Sarah Gauthier
TGNC Group Leader
June 2016 - September 2016



Wilfred "Fredo" Hernandez
Arts & Culture Group Leader
March 2016 - Present



Judy Kamilhor
Elder Group Leader
April 2016 - Present

Board Transition



Debbie Levinson's term ended June 30, 2016. Her incredible commitment, skill, and thoroughness improved fiscal management processes by strengthening internal controls.

"Debbie was not just an effective and thoughtful treasurer of our board, but also a beloved member of our community. Her impact on our financial systems will resonate for years to come as will her devotion to our vision to build Brooklyn's premier LGBT+ center," said Debbie Brennan.

Pro-Bono Counsel

Much gratitude to Venable, LLP for pro-bono counsel. From real estate to human resource advice and matters in between, we thank you! We are particularly grateful to Suzanne St. Pierre and Joseph Piscina.

Volunteers

Lois Abramchik
Paco Arroyo
Jayce Baron
Greg Beaudin
Nicole Belenitsky
Giovanni Bellegarde
Kierra Benjamin
Mike Bergin
Leonard Blades
Elliot Blankenship
Maxim Bondarenko
Richard Borkowski
Toniesha Broodie
Blake Captain
Hannah Carl
Dexter Cypress
Abiliana De la cruz
Cheyenne Deal

Cassidy Hanft
Laurel Hilbert
Cynthia Jackson
Hailey Jones
Kiara Jones-Ford
Austin Jung
Vanessa Kitzie
Joseph Kuter
Jonathan Lakomyj
Jovanne Major
Shy McKenzie
Josbel Mejia
Joseph Mercado
Alexia Mercedes
Eric Molina
Thanos Nioplias
Elisa Peebles
Marci Redmond

Lucas Riccardi
Cass Ryan
Jaidee Santos
Alan Schuster
Janice Sedes
Ciara Smith
Linda Song
Alfredo Suarez
Patrick Sykes-Craig
Matthew Taitano
Joshua Terefe
Jessica Tezen
Ijeoma Uba
Jayson Vivas
Zell Watson
Debra Williams
Emily Wilson

Binghamton University for Students of Color
Princeton University Breakout Trip Student Cohort
University of Maryland Alternative Break Cohort

“When I came here for the first time, I felt endless possibilities....I could actually be happy.”

- Alex. Country of Origin: Jamaica
LGBTQ New American

Thank You to Our Supporters!

July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

The Brooklyn Community Pride Center is grateful for the generous support from the following LGBT+ champions without whom our work would not be possible.

2016 Community Leadership Awards and Gala Honorees on June 9, 2016 included BFC Partners, Marty Markowitz, H. van Ameringen Foundation, and Janice Savin Williams. We are grateful for their leadership support.

Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of this list. Please email corrections to Dillon Seebalack, Development Associate, at dseebalack@lgbtbrooklyn.org.

Cornerstone Society

Marble (\$10,000+)

BFC Partners
Citi
Don Capoccia
Double B Management Services, Inc.
NYC Council Member Daniel Dromm
NYC Council Member Brad Lander
NYC Council Member Carlos Menchaca
H. van Ameringen Foundation
Janice Savin Williams and Christopher Williams

Quartz (\$5,000+)

Chubb & Son
NYC Council Member Laurie Cumbo
Lisa Davis

NYC Council Member Vincent Gentile
Massarte LTD
NYC Council Member Jumaane Williams
Tommie Peguez

Travertine (\$2,500+)

Amida Care Insurance
Catharine Hough and Keryn Lowry
Christopher Street Financial
NYC Council Member Robert Cornegy
NYC Council Member Stephen Levin
Kathryn Mackey
NYC Council Member Antonio Reynoso
Jonathan Santos-Ramos

Granite (\$1,000+)

A.G. Foundation in honor of
Henry van Ameringen
Steve Ashkinazy and Michael
Gomillion
Sarita Niranjana Bhatt
Deborah Brennan
Broadway Stages
Dawn Cardi

Diana Ehrlich
Food for Juniors, Inc.
Mckenzie Jones
Terrance Knox
Deborah Levinson
Marina LLata
Louis Martarano
National Basketball Association
Scharpf Family Foundation
Tom Smith

Individual Donors**\$500 - \$999**

Lois Abramchik
Brooklyn Academy of Music
Chris Carolan
Anthony Crowell
Shelly Friedman
Paul Herzan
Stephanie Johnson
Marc Karavasian

Brian Kenny
David Kooy
Kathryn Mackey
Marty Markowitz
Matthew Adam
Properties, Inc.
Michael Mckenzie

Matthew Truitt
McMorrow and Marc
Karavasian
Abdul Muid
Kelebohile Nkhereanye
Donnie Roberts
Matt Sturiale
Lyle Walford

\$100 - \$499

Richard Allman
Michelle Barbeau Noguchi
Renee Boyd
Earl Brown
James Brown
Renee Vera Cafiero
Ryan Chandler
Thomas Ciardullo
Elizabeth Colebrooke
Jacqueline Cook
Dick Dadey
Tim Devin
Aisha Diori
Jay Dockendorf
Erin Drinkwater
Carolyn Farhie
Lynn Faria
Tara Favors
Philip A. Forman
Razoo Foundation

Sandi Franklin
Paul Franklin
Geoffrey S. Gibbs
Adolph Ward Goldenburg
Andy Grover
Matthew Holden
Joseph Jarrin
Fidelity Charitable Fund
Dwight Johnson
Don Kao
Sean Kirwin
Tom Leder
Alex Lepinsky
Kelsey Louie
Alexander Mager
Carol L. Marker
Richard Montelione
Owain Morgan
Shane Morgan
Chandrabhan Motilall

David Norris
David Parker
Susan Reph
Robin Richardson
Amy Richter
Robert Rifkin
Thomas Rozboril
Floyd Rumohr
Jeremy Schwartz, LCSW PLLC
Jo-Ann Shain
Laura Smalls
David Cloyce Smith
Wendy Stark
Monique Stokes
Michael Swirsky
Colleen J. Taylor
Ted Thompson
Felicity Tswikiwa
Anthony Volponi
Alan Washington

Up to \$100

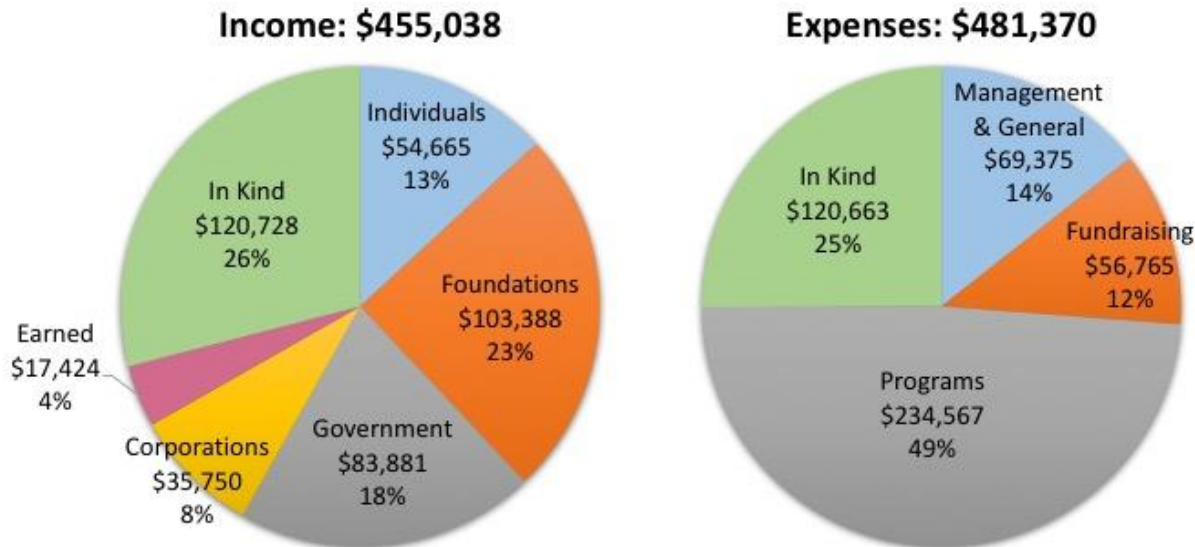
Barbara Abrams
Robert Biegen
Yesenia Branca
Rose Brook
Brooklyn Friends School
Matthew Brown
Jacquelyn Burrows
Ellyn Canfield
Daniel Cloudt
Marcia Cole
Jasmine Coley
Michael Czaczkas
Michelle DiSabato
Ruth Dye

Charles Eubanks
Dona Franklin
Jeanette Gong
Leonore Gordon
Grace & Peace Fellowship Church
Eric Heller
Yoga For Business, Inc.
Leon Hosang
Daniel Hurewitz
The K Foundation
Jony Kanter
Michael Kriston
Jeffrey Leeds
Braeden Lentz

Caesar E. Libonati
Susan E. Lippman
Richard Majewski
Patricia Mendell
Carol Morgan
New Kings Democrats
Thomas Palatucci
Nadira Ramchaaran
Kamal Shukla
Andrew Sloat
Stonewall Community Foundation
Ijeoma S. Uba
Therese Warden

Financials

July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016 unaudited draft. FY16 audited financial statements are available on our website.



Surplus/Deficit: (\$26,332)

The Brooklyn Community Pride Center anticipated a short-term deficit in FY16 and established a deficit reduction plan for FY17 by fiscal year's end.

Board Members

Debbie Brennan, President
 Terrance Knox, Secretary
 Debbie Levinson, Treasurer
 Jonathan Santos-Ramos, Vice President

Sarita Niranjana Bhatt
 David Kooy

Committees

- **Executive**, Debbie Brennan, Chair. Members: Debbie Levinson, Terrance Knox, Jonathan Santos-Ramos, Debbie Levinson
- **Programs**, Jonathan Santos-Ramos, Chair. Members: Lois Abramchik, Barbara Cavallo, Judy Kamilhor, Melanie Martinez, LMHC, William Nazareth, Jr., Greg Rills, Sage Rivera.
- **Fund Development**, Lisa Davis, Chair. Members: Dolph Goldenburg, Floyd Rumohr
- **Real Estate**, David Kooy, Chair. Members:
- **Board Development**, Debbie Brennan, Chair. Members: Dolph Goldenburg, Floyd Rumohr

Ad hoc:

- **2016 Community Leadership Awards and Gala**
 Lisa Davis and Sonelius-Kendrick Smith, Co-Chairs.
 Members: Debbie Brennan, Brian Kenny, Terrance Knox, Lou Matarano & Roland Ballester, Owain & Shane Morgan, Floyd Rumohr & Paco Arroyo, Jonathan Santos-Ramos, Alan Washington



Advisory Council

Earl Brown
 Tom Smith

"Now you have kids thinking that they can't come out, that they have to pretend to be something that they're not just so they can fit in and not be harassed by people they don't know."

- Christina Rainey, YouthPride

In the News

Media presence was very strong in FY16! The Brooklyn Community Pride Center appeared in the following:

- **NY1**, June 23, 2016: *LGBT Youth Find Safe Haven With Each Other at Brooklyn Center* by Jeanine Ramirez
- **NY Daily News**, June 24, 2016: *Brooklyn Borough Hall goes rainbow for Orlando, with banner full of messages for victims from New Yorkers* by Mary McDonnell
- **NY1**, June 25, 2016: *Brooklyn Borough Hall Draped in Rainbow Colors to Honor Orlando Shooting Victims* by NY1 News
- **Brooklyn Daily Eagle**, June 25, 2016: *From Brooklyn to Orlando With Love* by Mary Frost
- **Park Slope Stoop**, May 22, 2016: *Photos Released Of Suspects In 9th Street Transgender Victim Attack* by Donny Levit
- **Park Slope Stoop**, May 19, 2016: *After 9th Street Attack On Transgender Man, Elected Officials And LGBTQ Community Respond* by Donny Levit
- **PIX 11**, May 13, 2016: *Our Perspective on President Obama's Directive on Transgender Bathroom Access* by Joe Mauceri
- **Daily News**, April 20, 2016: *James Franco says he's 'a little gay,' people from LGBT organizations weigh in* by Peter Sblendorio
- **NY Post Page Six**, April 7, 2016: *LGBT community wants to hit Manny Pacquiao where it hurts* by Oli Coleman
- **Brooklyn News Service**, April 7, 2016: *Gay Leaders Spar with Pacquiao, Call for Boycott* by Michael Odmark
- **Fox News**, April 10, 2016: *HBO under fire for relationship with Manny Pacquiao after anti-gay remarks* by FoxNews.com and The Associated Press
- **The Washington Post**, April 10, 2016: *Manny Pacquiao says he'll retire, but leaves a little wiggle room* by Cindy Boren
- **BK Reader**, December 10, 2015: *Brooklyn Community Pride Center Names Floyd Rumohr as New Executive Director* by Brooklyn Reader

Please visit <http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/events-news/> to read the above articles online.

Goals for FY17

1. Leadership, Governance and Strategy

- a. Establish plan to populate finance/audit committee.
- b. Recruit at least three more cause champions to the board with time, talent, and treasure.
- c. Relocate to 1360 Fulton Street, Brooklyn (Restoration Plaza).

2. Programs

- a. Analyze visitor tracking system and establish plan to modernize.
- b. Establish outcomes for at least one program area.

3. Resource Development

- a. Human:
 - i. Increase board give to \$3,000.
 - ii. Build professional development capacity by considering learning needs of staff.
- b. Financial:
 - i. Foundations: Increase by at least 118%.
 - ii. Corporations: Increase by at least 49%
 - iii. Individuals: Increase by at least 55%.
 - iv. Earned income: Increase by at least 480%.

4. Financial Management and Reporting

- a. Build budget capacity in high needs areas.
- b. Sustain expenses for 2017 Community Leadership Awards and Gala and Heritage Pride Float at FY16 levels and make cost reductions where possible.
- c. Revamp QuickBooks' income accounts and classes; reclassify and fix earlier errors.
- d. Simplify financial reporting.

5. Communications

- a. Create and distribute an online annual report.

Contribute to Your Center!

Make your safe, secure online donation here:
<http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/donate/>



Ways to Support Your Center

- **Donate:** We especially love recurring donations!
<http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/donate/>
- **Shop!** .5 percent of every purchase goes directly to us at Amazon Smile. <http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/donate/>
- **Fundraise:** Start a Facebook fundraiser. They're easy and fun.
<https://twitter.com/LGBTbrooklyn/status/844258020829880320>
- **Sign and share!** Our online petition will help us expand into the Bedford-Union Armory by 2019/2020. <https://www.change.org/p/brooklyn-s-lgbt-center-needs-a-permanent-home>
- **Share your vision:** Your ideas matter.
<http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/portfolio/2020-vision/>