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OutCenter Mayish 2015 Newsletter

1 message

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Fri, Aug 7, 2015 at 4:25 PM



OUT & about

Newsletter

Mayish 2015

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Coloma UCC to Host Rep. Hoadley

We need your support!

We need you to commit to an annual donation. Your support will help us establish a truly whole community in Southwest Michigan.

A whole community includes lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people and their families.

We achieved so much in 2014 and we continue to do more in 2015 as you will read in this newsletter. You know that your support will be put to great use - that we are dedicated people who understand the area and what it takes to succeed.

People like you helped make the OutCenter a leading voice on the issues - and a successful nonprofit organization delivering precedent-setting mission-based impacts.

We are launching an opportunity for you to support our efforts and need your financial donation today. Please select a level of support you feel you can give to the OutCenter.

\$500 As an OutCenter Benefactor
\$250 As an OutCenter Friend
\$100 As an OutCenter Affiliate

Your LGBT community center is committed

Teen Pride Prom 2015!

The Teen Pride Gay-Straight Alliance of Berrien County launched the second annual Teen Pride Prom on May 31 at the [Krasl Art Center](#) in Saint Joseph, Michigan!

More than twice the number of attendees from our inaugural event were on hand to celebrate!



Teens relaxing in front of the Krasl Art Center.



The Cupid Shuffle gets things going thanks to DJ John Krugh

Fabulous Shout Out of Huge Thanks to:

- [Krasl Art Center](#) & Board member Tami Miller- Fabulous venue!
- Ma 'N Pa's Country Kettle Catering - Great food!
- Jon Krugh of Center Line Music - Great Music!
- Noel Bash - Great gift bags!

And the Fabulous Prom Team who organized and worked with Teen Pride Gay-Straight Alliance of Berrien County to make the 2nd Annual Prom a

to staying informed and on the forefront - for you, for your loved ones, and for every person in this community. Please help us help others in need now. You can make this possible with your annual contribution.

Your donation will make a world of difference.

Lake Effect Pride, July

31!
Tix on Sale Now!



This is the OutCenter's Annual Pride Celebration in Benton Harbor.

Click [here](#) for more information and to purchase tickets.

Stay tuned for information on awards, raffle prize, and and much more!

Teen Pride Summer Meetings!
Become the change you want to see in Southwest Michigan!



Berrien County Gay-Straight Alliance Summer 2015 meetings!

LGBTQ teens & allies (ages 14-18)
Become a leader and be the change you want to see!

Stop by for fun activities & hang out with amazing people.
Find Teen Pride on Facebook for updates.

When?
 o June 20, 2-5 PM
 o July 18, 2-5 PM
 o August 15, 2-5 PM

@ The Phoenix Café (business information not listed)
 124 Walker Street,
 Benton Harbor, MI

269.925.8330 OutCenter t f

Keep up to date at the Teen Pride Facebook Page:



NEW SUMMER SCHEDULE
Whole Lives,
Healthy Lives:
Adult Support Group

REALITY!



Jenifer Keller, Teen Pride Outreach & Education Consultant (left)
Val Owen, Teen Pride Project Lead Volunteer (right)
John Noppen, New Teen Pride Volunteer (center)

New Intern Benjamin Cass Introduces Our Tomorrow at Teen Pride Prom!

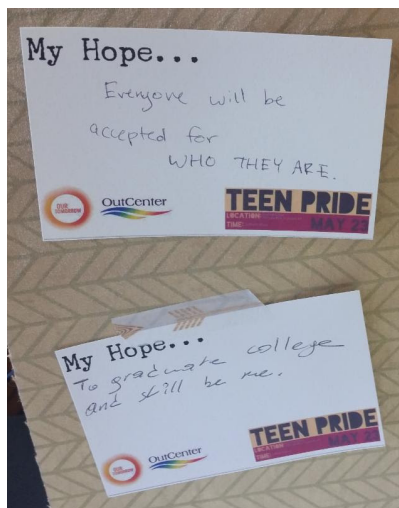


Benjamin Cass at the Our Tomorrow table at Teen Pride Prom.

A few weekends ago, I had the opportunity to share the Our Tomorrow project with our Teen Pride group at their second annual Teen Pride Prom. Our Tomorrow is an online platform which allows anyone to join the conversation regarding LGBTQ issues. This is such an important project because it ensures that every voice will be heard, and that no one will be left out of our movement. So as the teens took a break from the dance floor, we gave them the chance to share their hopes, ideas, and fears at the Our Tomorrow booth. I was impressed, to say the least, at the responses we received.

The fears that were shared ranged from the fear of exclusion...to the fear that the 'T' will be forgotten from LGBTQ.

Their hopes included universal marriage equality, the hope for gender identity to be a non-issue, and the hope that everyone will feel accepted, no matter their gender or sexual identity.



Last, but certainly not least, our teen's ideas included ensuring the inclusion of transgendered people, creating a tightly-knit community, and (my personal favorite), "To create more LGBT+ places and resources (GSA's!)- It really helps, it's so fun too!!! :)"

One thing is for sure, our teens are smart, informed, and caring. I couldn't think of a better group to be the next generation of our movement.

Coloma UCC to Host Conversation with State Representative Jon Hoadley
Monday, June 15, 6:30 PM

Whole Lives Healthy Lives
Adult Support Group
Summer 2015 Schedule



Weekly Monday Meetings 7-9 PM
(May 18 thru August 31, 2015)
No Meeting on Memorial Day, May 25th

Schedule of Volunteer Professional Facilitators:

- 1st Monday of the month: Margo Runkle
- 2nd Monday: Ron Robinson
- 3rd Monday: Sandy and Larry Feldman
- 4th Monday: Chris Lacefield
- 5th Monday (June & August): Ron Robinson

OutCenter Community Room, 132 Water Street, Benton Harbor, Michigan, 49022, 269.925.8330, www.outcenter.org

OutCenter
Helping Create Whole Communities & Inspiring Equality to Southward Michigan!

**Monday Evenings
7-9 PM**

A great opportunity for adults to connect with others in a supportive and healthy environment. Attend and find out more about this great group of folks!

Foundation Support



Frederick S. Upton Foundation



**Quick Links
Our Website**

Can you help this site?

[Please contact us with any offers to fund or provide services for re-doing the OutCenter website.](#)

OutCenter on Facebook:



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OutCenter | 132 Water Street | Benton Harbor | MI | 49022

[Jon Hoadley](#) serves as the State Representative for Michigan's 60th District, representing Kalamazoo and Kalamazoo township.

At this Community Conversation, Hoadley will help us to better understand recent discussions in Lansing having to do with "religious freedom" bills, and the state of the Elliot-Larsen non-discrimination act.

Please join us for this special opportunity to learn more about these critical issues being discussed by our leaders in Lansing.

[Find out more here.](#)



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