



Mary Jo Schnell <maryjoschnell@outcenter.org>

OutCenter September 2015 Newsletter

1 message

OutCenter <info@outcenter.org>
 Reply-To: info@outcenter.org
 To: maryjoschnell@outcenter.org

Tue, Sep 15, 2015 at 2:52 PM



Serving the LGBT+ Community in Southwest Michigan

OUT and a bOUT

In This Issue

Free Counseling at the OutCenter
 Support the OutCenter!
 Teen Pride School Year Meetings
 Whole Lives Healthy Lives Schedule
 Foundation Support
 New Board Chair
 Teen Pride this Saturday!
 Back to School Resources
 West Shore Aware Fundraiser
 Holiday Pride 2015

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

*Free Counseling at the
 OutCenter*



If you or someone you know would like to speak with a therapist-in-training, please know the OutCenter is host to a tremendous resource: Chris Lacefield, Masters and PhD Candidate in Psychotherapy.

You can call and leave a confidential message to set up an appointment:

September 15, 2015

Todd Dockerty is the new OutCenter Board Chair!

Paul Lane had stepped into the position temporarily while the OutCenter prepared for the new Chair, Todd Dockerty, to lead the OutCenter Board.



Thank you Paul for your great work during that interim period! Your passion and commitment to the OutCenter is AMAZING! Paul will be staying on the Board and continuing to help in a number of areas including Fund Development and technology.

And thank you Todd for your commitment to the OutCenter and the health of this growing organization!



Todd has already leveraged much on behalf of the OutCenter mission and is excited about taking the lead at the Board level. The organization has already sketched out a 3 year plan that will be further developed over the next 2 months. Todd's leadership skills, management experience, and network within and outside of Berrien County will be instrumental to this work.

Teen Pride of Southwest MI meets Saturday!

LGBT+ Teens & Allies, 14-18

This Saturday, September 19, 2-5 PM.
 Great food, great fun, great people, great time!

269.925.8338

We need your support!

Your LGBT community center is committed 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!

Help us create more Communities That Care across Southwest Michigan!

You can make this possible with your contribution.

[OutCenter Affiliate \\$100](#)

[OutCenter Friend \\$250](#)

[OutCenter Benefactor \\$500](#)



Teen Pride School Year Meetings thru December!

Become the **change** you want to see in Southwest Michigan!

Join a growing number of Teens in the area who are dedicated to LGBT+ Equality!

TEEN PRIDE PROJECT
A COLLECTIVE ART PROJECT TO GAIN SUPPORT & AWARENESS FOR THE TRANS COMMUNITY!
www.care4lgbt.org

Join a fun and growing group.
Hang out with others like you.
Or just check in about school.

Saturday, September 19
2-5 PM
132 Water Street
Benton Harbor, MI

Great food, friends and fun with a serious mission:
To empower and train LGBT+ and allied youth committed to making positive contributions in order to create a vibrant and diverse community while promoting the rights of all students, and ensuring equal education.

OutCenter
facebook
twitter

Back to School with Equality!

Important Resources for Parents, Teachers, & Students

Getting back into the swing of things at school can be exciting and challenging for everyone. For LGBT+ students, parents, teachers, staff, and allies going back to school can have some serious

Here are some really trusted sources for teachers and teens, parents and allies...oh, heck, just about everyone can benefit from these resources!

GLSEN:

Every day GLSEN works to ensure that LGBT students are able to learn and grow in a school environment free from bullying and harassment. Spend time on their site to [learn about policies that matter](#), understand [your role as a student](#), and there's also a [great resource for teachers](#).



GLSEN is also a great resource for starting a [Gay-Straight Alliance \(GSA\)](#) at your school. A GSA can be an important school club for students and teachers to talk about safety at school, and ways to develop a truly inclusive community at school.

GLAAD:

GLAAD rewrites the script for LGBT acceptance. As a dynamic media force, GLAAD tackles tough issues to shape the narrative and provoke dialogue that leads to cultural change. GLAAD protects all that has been accomplished and creates a world where everyone can live the life they love.



And GLAAD's ["Got Your Back"](#) campaign is an excellent resource for allies. "When LGBT people and allies speak out, hearts and minds open. Your voice is critical to increasing the acceptance of LGBT people. Speak out now and show the world the importance of LGBT acceptance." Everyone needs to check this out!



Welcoming Schools

A PROJECT OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN FOUNDATION

Welcoming Schools:

This site provides starter kits, resources and much, much more for teachers, support staff, students, and the larger school community. It is a project of the Human Rights Campaign Foundation and is able to leverage the amazing brain trust of their partners and allies.

And here are some wonderful [teachable moments](#)...

Accredited Schools Online:

There LGBTQ page has a good collection of information and tips in summary fashion and also lists scholarships available for LGBTQ students.



Know your school. And help them know you, what is important to you, and how they can address your need



Keep up to date at the Teen Pride Facebook Page:



Whole Lives, Healthy Lives: Adult Support Group

Fall & Winter Schedule is here!



Monday Nights
7-9 PM

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

Foundation Support



Frederick S. Upton Foundation

for a safe and inclusive school.

OutCenter at West Shore Aware!

The OutCenter was selected as a recipient of funds from [West Shore Aware](#)'s 12th annual White Party with a Sparkle of Orange Topaz.

This sold out event on August 15 at the Laketown Conference Center in Saugatuck was an amazing event and convened hundreds of supporters. OutCenter Board members, partners and friends were on hand to represent the organization.

OutCenter Executive Director noted, "The OutCenter is just so honored to be here and be selected as a recipient of funds from West Shore Aware. They are a very important organization in West Michigan and we are very lucky to be working with them to bring more attention and support to the LGBT+ community on this side of the State."

Todd Dockerty and Mary Jo Schnell will attend the West Shore Aware Annual luncheon next week as a recipient of funds raised from this very wonderful event.



Save the Date: Holiday Pride 2015!

Save Saturday, November 21! Plan to be at the 3rd annual Holiday Pride Celebration featuring Paul Mow and friends to sing in the Holidays!



This after-dinner event will be at The Heritage Museum and Cultural Center at 7 PM.

Come together in song and celebration! Then stay a little longer for dessert!

If you'd like your business to advertise in this year's program book, please see below for details.



<p>Financial strategies. One-on-one advice.</p> <p>Fast & Simple</p> <p>Edward Jones</p>	<p>Profil's support for communities</p> <p>EDGEWATER</p> <p>The Official Beer of the Michigan State Spartans</p>	<p>Contact the OutCenter to place your ad in the Holiday Program Book:</p> <p>info@outcenter.org</p> <p>269.925.8330</p>
<p>CIA 720 St. Joseph Drive St. Joseph, MI 49085 269 985-7167</p> <p>Combined Insurance Agencies, Inc. CLEARBARGERMI.COM</p>		<p>Please see the sample page to the left and ad rates below.</p>
<p>221 MAIN</p>		<p>\$50 for 1/8 page ads (about 2 1/4"x2") \$100 for 1/4 page ads (about 5 1/2"x2") \$250 for 1/2 page ads (about 5 1/2"x4 1/2") \$500 for full page ads (about 5 1/2"x8 1/2") \$750 for inside front or back covers \$1,000 for back cover (about 5 1/2"x8 1/2")</p>

Stay Connected



OutCenter | 269-925-8330 | info@outcenter.org | <http://www.outcenter.org>
 132 Water Street
 Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Copyright © 2012. All Rights Reserved.

[Forward this email](#)



This email was sent to maryjoschnell@outcenter.org by info@outcenter.org |
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [About our service provider.](#)



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