

To: LGBTQ Commission of San Mateo County
From: Tanya Beat, Director
Date: April 6, 2021
Subject: Status of recent events/projects

Vaccine Rollout via County Vaccines Communications & Equity Working Group

- COVID-19 Vaccination Program: <https://www.smchealth.org/covidvaccine>
- County [Google Drive materials](#)

Helpful ways to get connected to appointments:

- Facebook Group called Bay Area Vaccine Hunters
- Telegram Application for phone; follow BayAreaVaccineNotification

CoastPride Endorsement from LGBTQ Commission:

- CoastPride is seeking endorsements to help support a new community space they have secured
- Commission can provide an endorsement that is not attached to finance or resources
- The letter drafted is to gain support from Supervisor Pine and to clarify how we are endorsing CoastPride.

Santa Clara County Office of LGBTQ Affairs:

I have invited them to present either on May 4 or July 6 and I would like to know from you what you want them to focus on (they have so much!). They will present for about 45 minutes with a Q&A. Please review their website under "Our Work" and the subpages for Programs, Policy, and Research:

<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/lgbtq/Our-work/Pages/home.aspx>.

Topics of Interest include:

Overview of the Office of LGBTQ Affairs

2-3 specific programs that are of most interest to the LGBTQ Commission.

- LGBTQ Listening Tour and research (LGBTQ Older Adult Study and Transgender Community Assessment) Below are also some initiatives not yet on our website (due to staff capacity with COVID impacts). Thanks so much, and we look forward to hearing from you!
- Transgender Recruitment and Retention, with a goal to increase the number of transgender, nonbinary, and gender diverse (TGNB) applicants, employees, and vendors and strengthen TGNB retention rates at the County of Santa Clara by creating an affirming workplace environment for TGNB people to thrive. This collaboration includes working with Employee

Services Agency – Human Resources, Equal Opportunity Department, and Learning Organization. This is under the umbrella of Transgender Economic Empowerment on the website.

- SupportOUT, a collaboration with Probation, Social Services Agency, and Behavioral Health Services Department to increase wellbeing for LGBTQ youth and especially LGBTQ youth of color who are systems involved (child welfare and/or juvenile justice).
- LGBTQ Health and Wellness Initiative, in collaboration with the Behavioral Health Services Department, which aims to increase the level of LGBTQ-competency in the delivery of health and wellness services, increase services that are responsive to needs that are priorities for LGBTQ persons, and improve health and wellness among the LGBTQ populations compared against data collected in 2013.
- LGBTQ Seniors Initiative Pilot with the vendor Avenidas that focuses on direct services for LGBTQ older adults to address the negative health disparities and heightened levels of social isolation experienced by this community and to build education for care providers. This work is in collaboration with the Social Services Agency, Department of Aging and Adult Services.

For our discussion, let's decide what date to confirm their presentation AND what 2-3 programs you want them to focus on.

April 6, 2021

Dear Supervisor Dave Pine,

The **San Mateo County LGBTQ Commission** is seeking to endorse CoastPride, the only LGBTQ+ organization serving the Coastsides.

Initiated in 2019, as a result of the San Mateo County LGBTQ Commission's needs assessment and based on the feedback of over 80 community members- primarily youth and educators on the coast, CoastPride offers a safe space online and at community events to gather the diversity of our voices, raise awareness of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, and Intersex (LGBTQI+) issues. CoastPride also addresses the needs of LGBTQI+ youth, families, and adults. CoastPride works with existing local civic, governmental, faith-based, nonprofit, and for-profit organizations to enhance services so that they are inclusive of all who play, work, and live on the Coastsides. CoastPride serves communities from Pescadero to Pacifica. Because of this wide region and increased demand for services, **CoastPride is now seeking to open a community center located in Half Moon Bay.**

The LGBTQ Commission wants to provide an endorsement that is intended to support CoastPride in developing relationships and strengthen organizational reputation beyond the geographic boundaries of the coastsides. The LGBTQ Commission understands that community centers are vital players in the LGBTQI+ movement and provide an invaluable link between LGBTQI+ people and local, state, and national efforts to advance equity. This future community center will make CoastPride services more visible and accessible to a diverse Coastsides community, including many more LGBTQI+ people of color, low-income people, and rural residents from Pescadero to Pacifica.

While [CoastPride](#) is a relatively new 501(c)(3) organization with no staff and a volunteer board of 9 members, they have been embraced by the Coastsides. CoastPride offers a safe space online and at community events to gather the diversity of our voices, raise awareness of LGBTQI+ issues, and address the needs of youth, families, and adults. All services are provided by board and community volunteers:

- Health and Wellness for LGBTQI+ teens and caregivers of these teens through our Support Group Program, which also provides warm hand-offs to other services
- Education and Visibility by educating the public about key issues impacting LGBTQI+ people and gathering people to learn about one another
- Social Reform through partnerships focused on equity in public spaces, places of employment, schools, faith-based organizations, and general services so that they are inclusive of LGBTQI+ people by advancing policies at the local level



The community center will serve LGBTQI+ persons and allies, and most importantly, signal to all who are fortunate to live or visit the Coastsides, that people of all sexual orientations and gender identities and expression are welcome here.

The LGBTQ Commission asks for you to support our endorsement of CoastPride.

Warm Regards,

Rebecca Carabez, Co-Chair

LGBTQ Commission of San Mateo County

Dana Johnson, Co-Chair

LGBTQ Commission of San Mateo County

