

The Equality Fund at The Boston Foundation

A Permanent Endowment for the LGBTQ Community

In 2012, the Boston Foundation established the Equality Fund as a permanent, committee-advised Field of Interest Fund with a mission to provide ongoing support to advance the equitable treatment of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (“LGBTQ”) people and their families in Greater Boston, and improve their quality of life over the long term.

The Fund made its first grants in June 2013 and has continued an annual grant-making cycle. Grants range in size from \$3,500 to \$15,000 and support organizations that serve the diverse needs of the LGBTQ community. From health, elder services, education, housing and other support services, the Equality Fund is dedicated to serving both the long-term and current needs of the community.

Equality Fund Grantees 2016

Boston Alliance of LGBTQ Youth (BAGLY): \$7,000 for support of the BAGLY Family Dinner program, which provides nutritious and fulfilling meals to LGBTQ youth in need and serves as a critical access point to the organization’s other programs and services.

Boston Children’s Hospital: \$9,000 for the Sexual Orientation-related Teen Pregnancy Disparities study, which aims to provide an in-depth, comprehensive understanding of the factors driving teen pregnancy risk across different sexual orientation groups.

Ethos: \$4,100 to provide LGBT cultural competency training for homecare workers at three of Ethos’ contracting agencies.

George H. and Irene L. Walker Home for Children, Inc.: \$9,400 to provide a series of LGBTQ trainings to approximately 175 educators and parents, positioning Beacon High School as a resource for community members and educators in Watertown and surrounding communities.

GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD): \$14,000 to support their Improving Conditions and Healthcare Access for Transgender Prisoners initiative, which is working to develop a sustainable solution to the issue of transgender prisoner discrimination.

Greater Boston Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (GBPFLAG): \$5,500 for website redesign, mobile app development, webinars, and marketing to expand programming and increase outreach.

Hispanic Black Gay Coalition (HBGC): \$7,500 for the HBGC New Leaders Institute, which provides LGBTQ youth of color with leadership development and skill-building opportunities.

Home for Little Wanderers: \$6,000 to support Waltham House, a group home for GLBTQ youth.

OUT MetroWest: \$13,500 to expand their Nexus program for LGBTQ middle school youth by transitioning from pilot to established program in Framingham and launching a new Newton-based pilot program.

Samaritans: \$5,000 for enhanced volunteer trainings addressing LGBTQ youth in crisis and to update their training manual to incorporate best practices for supporting LGBTQ youth.

Theater Offensive: \$5,000 to support the True Colors Creative Action Crew, an ensemble of youth leaders who deliver workshops and performances about the realities of being LGBTQ.

2015

Adoption & Foster Care Mentoring, Inc.: \$5,000 for their LGBTQ mentoring initiative which pairs LGBTQ youth in Greater Boston foster care in a one-to-one mentoring relationship with an LGBTQ or ally-identified adult.

Bisexual Resource Center, Inc.: \$5,000 to strengthen current support groups in Boston and for the creation of a training manual to assist organizations and individuals across the United States in creating, facilitating and maintaining their own bisexual support groups.

Black and Pink: \$5,000 for support of court-involved, incarcerated, or formerly incarcerated LGBTQ people through court accompaniments, building capacity of CPCS and Bar Advocates as well as a structured visitation program.

Boston Alliance of LGBTQ Youth (BAGLY): \$6,000 for support of the BAGLY Family Dinner program, which provides nutritious and fulfilling meals to LGBTQ youth in need and serves as a critical access point to the organization's other programs and services.

Family Equality Council: \$5,000 for support of the Family Week Event which attracts LGBTQ families to Provincetown, MA for a week of educational, networking and celebratory events.

GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD): \$5,000 for the promotion and creation of gay-straight alliances in middle schools.

Hispanic Black Gay Coalition (HBGC): \$10,000 for the HBGC New Leaders Institute, which provides LGBTQ youth of color with leadership development and skill-building opportunities.

History Project: \$12,750 for the Pre-Stonewall History Initiative which will capture oral histories of LGTBQ elders in effort to preserve them for future generations.

Home for Little Wanderers: \$12,000 to support Waltham House, a group home for GLBTQ youth.

Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition (MTPC): \$15,000 for support of a three-part policy and community organization plan intended to address the needs of transgender residents of the Commonwealth.

OUT MetroWest: \$14,400 for support of the Nexus social/education program for LGBTQ middle school youth.

2014

AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts, Inc.: \$5,000 for its Youth Supportive Housing Program, which will provide supportive services to homeless young adults and pair them with sponsor-based rental assistance from the Cambridge Housing Authority and the Metropolitan Housing Authority.

Boston Medical Center Corporation: \$13,000 for support of the Transgender Medicine Curricula, to train healthcare professionals in transgender patient care.

Fenway Community Health Center: \$7,500 to Fenway Community Health Center for the LGBT Aging Project to ensure LGBT older adults equal access to services.

GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD): \$10,000 to Park Square Advocates, Inc. for the Treat Lipodystrophy Coalition, which seeks to raise awareness about a devastating side effect of HIV medications and is working to pass a bill in Massachusetts to mandate insurance coverage of lipodystrophy treatment.

GLBTQ Domestic Violence Project: \$5,000 to Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project for support of the volunteer stewardship program, which will redesign how the organization manages and communicates with its volunteers.

Home for Little Wanderers: \$12,000 to support Waltham House, a group home for GLBTQ youth.

Massachusetts Asians and Pacific Islanders for Health: \$5,000 for the API LGBTQ Family Support Initiative, which seeks to help Asian and Pacific Islander (API) families overcome cultural and traditional barriers to accepting API LGBTQ youth.

Theater Offensive: \$7,500 for True Colors: Neighborhood Workshop Exchange, which will greatly increase the group's touring reach to more schools, community centers, and events in Boston.

University of Massachusetts-Boston: \$10,000 to expand programming and engagement of LGBT adults age 50 and older at Stonewall at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the University of Massachusetts.

2013

AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts, Inc.: \$7,500 for its Transgender Access to Care Project which seeks to ensure equitable access to coverage for transgender-related care.

Boston LGBT Film Festival: \$4,500 to support programming at the Boston LGBT Film Festival, geared toward the Latino LGBT community.

Boston Pride Committee: \$3,500 to support costs associated with hiring and strategic planning consultant to develop the agency's first-ever strategic plan.

Ethos: \$5,000 to support the Out2Brunch and Out4Supper dining programs, which aim to reduce isolation among LGBT seniors.

Fenway Institute: \$10,000 to support a program to ensure cultural competency in LGBT elder home care.

GLBTQ Advocates & Defenders (GLAD): \$10,000 for support of the Policy Advocacy for Young Transgender Children program, which will seek to protect the legal rights of young transgender children.

GLBTQ Domestic Violence Project: \$4,000 to support a redesign of its volunteer training and stewardship program.

Greater Boston Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (GBPFLAG): \$10,000 for support of its Family Acceptance Project, which will train parents and caregivers directly, as well as healthcare professionals, educators and religious leaders who come into daily contact with parents, caregivers and LGBTQ youth, by offering support and education.

Hispanic Black Gay Coalition (HBGC): \$7,500 for the HBGC New Leaders Institute, which provides LGBTQ youth of color with leadership development and skill-building opportunities.

LGBT Aging Project: \$5,000 for the LGBT Aging Project's Bringing LGBT Aging Out of the Closet program to raise awareness of LGBT issues in the fields of aging, health care, long-term care, social work and other fields.

Massachusetts Asians and Pacific Islanders for Health: \$4,500 to develop a strategic outreach initiative for its M-Spot men's health program addressing issues of HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted illnesses, and the Asian Pride program, which provides a safe space for LGBTQ youth to seek support and health counseling.

Sociedad Latina, Inc.: \$3,500 for support of its Cultural Arts programming to support positive identity development for Latino LGBTQ youth of color.

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