



**the center**  
Serving the LGBTQ  
Community of Nevada

# SUSTAINING HOPE

**THE CENTER'S  
2016 SUSTAINABILITY FUND**

# SECRETS, SECRETS ARE NO FUN...

## SECRETS, SECRETS HURT SOMEONE.

**Imagine you had a secret and you've been holding on to this secret for as long as you can remember... no one knows... but it is a big part of you.**

It's who you are. You feel you can't tell anyone because of what might happen. You might lose your friends, your family might disown you and you will become homeless. You might get beat up, made fun of, teased, criticized, and even killed. This is the experience of LGBTQ people.

- Every day...** more than **7,000** people worldwide contract HIV.
- Every day...** LGBTQ seniors are **two times** as likely to face social isolation.
- Every day...** **31** transgender individuals commit suicide in the United States.
- Every day...** **26 to 40%** of homeless youth in the United States are LGBTQ.
- And every day...** The Center works hard to ensure members of our community do not become just another statistic.

## WHAT IS THE CENTER?

The Center is a safe place where individuals can **be who they are, ask questions, and thrive as healthy, equal and complete members of society.**

## OUR HISTORY

The Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada, a 501(c)(3) organization known by most as The Center, was founded in the summer of 1992 through efforts inspired by the Friday Night Men's Rap Group at Community Counseling Center. For several months, The Center's Board of Directors met in a small room at Community Counseling Center, but in June 1993 The Center bought a small former dental office at 912 E. Sahara Ave.

By 2001, The Center had outgrown its small space and in February 2002 moved across Sahara Avenue into a storefront in Commercial Center. A ribbon-cutting and dedication was held on October 11, 2002 in association with the city's National Coming Out Day celebrations. With its membership and community programs growing rapidly, The Center moved into a larger space nearby in June 2006. This expansion included a computer lab, two large meeting/game rooms, a comfortable community room, and Las Vegas' first LGBTQ library.

By 2012 the Center surpassed its fundraising goal and bought the free-standing, 16,000 sq. ft. building at 401 S. Maryland Pkwy. After a \$4-million renovation, The Center hosted its grand opening on April 6, 2013. Named for Las Vegas businessman and community philanthropist Robert "Bob" Forbuss, The Center offers state-of-the-art meeting, convention, and performance spaces, the David R. Parks Lending Library, an enhanced computer lab, and the award-winning Bronze Café. The Center significantly increased its programming and outreach and in 2015 was named by *Vegas Seven* magazine as the Best Full-Service Community Center in Southern Nevada.



Like Las Vegas, the Center is constantly growing and will continue serving the Southern Nevada LGBTQ community with professionalism, dedication, and compassion.



# WHAT IS THE CENTER DOING TO HELP OUR COMMUNITY?

**Every day...** more than **7,000** people worldwide contract HIV.

Serving as a critical part of Southern Nevada Health District's testing and counseling programs, The Center offers complimentary rapid HIV testing and counseling as well as syphilis and hepatitis C testing to Nevada residents. The goal is to empower people with an awareness of their own situations and allow them to take control of their lives.

- HIV prevention materials, condoms and safer sex kits distributed into the community in 2015 – **128,557**
- Number of sexually transmitted disease (STD) tests by the Southern Nevada Health District in 2015 – **7,952**
- Number of HIV tests by the Southern Nevada Health District in 2015 – **6,000**



**Every day...** LGBTQ seniors are **two times** as likely to face social isolation.

**ACT III (Aging Communities Together)** is the umbrella term for The Center's program and service offerings for LGBTQIA2 and allied seniors 50 and older. ACT III offers a free **Senior Drop-in** program that offers a safe, fun, inclusive space for seniors to enjoy activities, games, films, exercise and education with their peers.



- Participation in ACT III (Aging Communities Together) senior programs in 2015 – **1,258**
- Attendance at ACT III Senior Prom in 2015 – **150**

**Every day...** **31** transgender individuals commit suicide in the U.S.

**Identi-T\*** at The Center provides transgender and gender non-conforming individuals from Southern Nevada a safe place to relate to their peers, seek guidance, exchange clothing and expand their social circles. Programs include **Out of the (Gender) Box**, a weekly discussion group that provides a safe space for folks who identify outside of (or don't quite fit into) the 'male' and 'female' boxes assigned to us by society; **Trans.lation**, which provides support and community-building opportunities for transgender people and their loved ones of all ages; and **Transmasculine Group**, a peer-facilitated supportive discussion group for trans and gender non-conforming individuals who identify as masculine of center or questioning. The free **SWITCH** trans\* clothing swap provides space for getting rid of clothes and accessories that don't express who you are and replacing them with items you can't wait to wear.



- Participation in Identi-T\* transgender and gender non-conforming programs in 2015 – **1,489**

**Every day...** **26 to 40%** of homeless youth in the United States are LGBTQ.

The Center offers **Youth Drop-in** Monday through Thursday afternoons, open for youth to complete their homework, surf the internet, play games and socialize with friends. Homework assistance and tutoring is available on select afternoons courtesy of Andson. The **QVolution** youth program meets on Tuesdays and Thursday evenings to provide supportive and affirming space for LGBTQ youth and allies 13 to 24, offering activities and discussion that vary week to week.



qVolution

- Participation in QVolution youth programming in 2015 – **2,065**
- Attendance at the annual Youth Prom in 2015 – **294**

# FINANCIAL GOALS

## Projected 2016 Operating Budget and Reserves: \$2,794,500.00

- Operating Budget: \$1,832,050
- Debt Paydown on Loan to Capital: \$300,000
- Strategic Plan Expense: \$100,000
- Operational Reserves: \$560,000



INCOME CATEGORIES	FY 2015 INCOME ACTUAL	FY 2016 INCOME PROJECTIONS	% OF TOTAL
Grants— Government & Foundations	\$403,951.11	\$900,000.00	32.2%
Individuals/Family Trusts >\$5,000 (Major Gifts)	\$473.811	\$849,500.00	30.4%
Individuals/Family Trusts <\$5,000	\$327,381.99	\$200,000.00	7.2%
Corporations— Operating Support	\$102,588	\$200,000.00	7.2%
The Center's "Official" Fundraising Events — Honorarium, Picnic by Design, House of DIFFA & ARTrageous	\$560,556.25	\$550,000.00	19.7%
Rental Income	\$26,000	\$30,000.00	1.07%
Room Usage Income	\$57,264.09	\$55,000	1.9%
Training Income	\$4,700	\$10,000	.33%
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>\$2,794,500.00</b>	<b>100%</b>

**We are asking for your help by donating to The Center's 2016 Sustainability Fund to ensure that members of our community do not become just another statistic.**

Thanks to our community supporters, we were able to successfully raise \$4 million during our Opening New Doors capital campaign. We truly appreciate all of our donors. It's because of them we were able to open our doors on April 6, 2013.

The Center continues to support our community, but we still need your help. Now that we have a bigger, brighter community Center, we are assisting more and more people every day. We are asking for your help. The Center is supporting not only the LGBTQ community but also low to moderate income residents in Southern Nevada. We are working on creating outcomes not just out-puts.

By donating to The Center's 2016 Sustainability Fund, you are helping to lower the number of people who contract HIV. You are helping to make sure our seniors don't face social isolation. You are helping to turn the number of transgender individuals that commit suicide everyday into "0" and you are helping the 26-40% of homeless youth that are kicked out of their homes by friends and family... for just being who they are.

The Center is committed to working with you to identify a way for you to support our mission that makes the best sense for you. We are asking YOU to please donate to The Center's 2016 Sustainability Fund TODAY!



RAUL DANIELS,  
MICHAEL DIMENGO,  
JOSEPH & TIM ODDO AT  
HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS



**THE CENTER**  
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The Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada, a community-based organization, supports and promotes activities directed at furthering the well-being, positive image, and human rights of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer community, its allies, and low to moderate income residents in Southern Nevada.