2020 Annual Report

A fair and just Colorado
for all.
Dear Friends,

I am honored to write to you as the new Executive Director of One Colorado. In January of 2021, I began my work during a pivotal time for the organization. Last year brought about many challenges as the community was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, racial injustice, and economic instability. The pandemic exacerbated issues already facing LGBTQ people, including health and financial disparities. And after ten years with One Colorado, former Executive Director, Daniel Ramos, announced his departure. Throughout all of this, the One Colorado staff stepped up to meet these challenges; adapting programs and events virtually to best serve the most pressing needs of LGBTQ Coloradans and their families.

As we reflect on lessons from the past, we also turn our sights to the future of One Colorado and of the equality movement. While intersectionality has been named as a core value in One Colorado’s work, the uprisings during the summer of 2020 highlighted the long-standing need to explicitly commit our organization to anti-racist and anti-oppressive work and center equity in all that we do. As we begin the strategic planning process for the next three years, we will hold fast to our commitment of diversity, equity, and inclusion as integral to the objective of full equality for LGBTQ people. We aim to build a coalition that includes all intersecting identities — in every corner of the state to ensure all LGBTQ Coloradans have a voice in our efforts.

I’m excited for this opportunity to help guide One Colorado into this next chapter for LGBTQ equality and I look forward to working with supporters like you to make substantial progress toward our shared goals.

Peace & Respect,

Nadine Bridges
One Colorado Executive Director
The One Colorado Education Fund (OCEF) is the state’s leading advocacy organization dedicated to advancing equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) Coloradans and their families. OCEF primary focus areas are:

- Protecting victories and advancing opportunities
- Ensuring every student feels safe and welcome in school
- Increasing access to healthcare for LGBTQ Coloradans
- Removing barriers transgender Coloradans face in their daily lives

OCEF has cultivated a statewide list of over 105,000 supporters who donate, volunteer, and advocate for LGBTQ equality in Colorado. OCEF also has a strong social media presence with followers reaching 24,000 on Facebook, 8,000 on Twitter, and 4,000 on Instagram.

MEET THE TEAM

Marv Allen (they, them)  
Health Equity & Training Director

Nadine Bridges, MSW  
(she, her)  
Executive Director

Michael Crews (he, him)  
Policy Director

Heidi Hess (she, her)  
Western Slope Field Organizer

Kris Little (she, her)  
Book Keeper & Office Assistant

Mikayla Rogers (she, her)  
Development & Communications Coordinator

Garrett Royer (he, him)  
Development Manager

Branden Shafer (he, him)  
Political & Organizing Manager

Alexander Wamboldt, PhD  
(he, him)  
Youth & Schools Program Manager

Jessica Zender (she, her)  
Denver Metro Political Organizer
LGBTQ individuals face several unique challenges that affect the ability to live healthy and affirmed lives. Lack of understanding, discrimination, stigma, violence, higher rates of health problems, and other barriers can compound and produce worse health outcomes. One Colorado works to address these issues through policy and advocacy, public education, and improving data collection.

“What the LGBTQ Health?” Statewide Tour
• 3 virtual stops sharing Closing the Gap data, recommendations, and Know Your Rights information

“What the LGBTQ Health?” Regional Tour
• 6 regional stops (Western Slope and Mountain Towns, Denver Metro, Pikes Peak, Southwest, Northeast, and Eastern Plains) with guest speakers from each region

Health Insurance Buyer’s Guides (English and Spanish)
One Colorado created 3 guides to assist transgender Coloradans and people living with HIV to make informed decisions about which insurance companies meet their health needs.
• Transgender Health Insurance Buyer’s Guide
• Hormone Therapy Prescription Coverage Guide
• PrEP and HIV Prescription Coverage Guide

HIV Prevention Medications Patient and Provider Guides (English and Spanish)
• Helpful information and resources for patients and providers about HIV prevention medications, pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)

COVID-19 Resources for LGBTQ Coloradans
• A curated webpage for LGBTQ Coloradans and their families to help mitigate the health and financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic

Joelle Maslak
Trans Peer Support Group Facilitator

“Colorado’s non-discrimination protections and number of LGBTQ-competent health providers in Colorado are among the best in the nation, but we still have more to do to make sure every LGBTQ person has full access to the health care they need.”
Schools are often places where LGBTQ young people don’t feel safe or included. In Colorado, 7 out of 10 students are harassed based on their sexual orientation. It is important that we work to build a climate across our state where LGBTQ students can be out, safe, and supported in their schools.

Engaging GSAs (Gender & Sexuality Alliances)
GSAs are student-led clubs for LGBTQ students and allies that provide a safe space to meet, support each other, and educate their peers to end homophobia and transphobia in schools.

• We have 260 GSAs registered with One Colorado’s statewide GSA Network
• Over 300 students, educators, and parents attended the annual GSA Leadership Summit, which was virtual and statewide for the first time
• One Colorado became a new member of the National GSA Network

GSA Leadership Council
• 10 students from across the state were selected for the Council to serve as regional representatives to provide feedback, training, and support for GSAs in Colorado, and to advise on programming direction within the Safe Schools work of One Colorado
• Students helped plan the virtual GSA Summit, interviewed the Governor & First Gentleman, and hosted a Winter Break Self-Care virtual session

Advancing Inclusivity for LGBTQ Youth
• 184 parents, educators, and community leaders trained across 6 different counties on LGBTQ inclusivity in educational contexts
• Helped place 3 LGBTQ students on Colorado youth boards, including the state Suicide Prevention Commission and the first Colorado Elections Youth Advisory Committee
• Initiated LGBTQ-youth-serving professionals meetings, which includes 20 partnering organizations from across the state

“It’s empowering for other queer youth to see people their own age advocating and getting involved.”

Julia Gentry
GSA Leadership Council
Pro-LGBTQ Bills Passed in 2020

• HB20-1061 makes it easier for Coloradans to access HIV prevention medications like PrEP and PEP
• SB20-221 bans the gay and trans “panic defense”, which cites a victim’s sexual orientation or gender identity as a defense for violent actions — including murder
• SB20-166 simplifies the process for transgender and gender-expansive minors to obtain a new birth certificate

Anti-LGBTQ Bills Blocked in 2020

• HB20-1033 would have allowed LGBTQ discrimination in nearly every area of public life on the basis of religious freedom
• HB20-1063 would have made it more difficult for minors to leave abusive or non-affirming homes
• HB20-1114 would have punished doctors for providing gender-affirming care to minors
• HB20-1144 would have allowed parents to make health care decisions and view all medical records for youth under 17
• HB20-1272 would have defined valid marriage as between one man and one woman
• HB20-1273 would have prohibited young trans athletes from participating on sports teams that correspond with their gender identity

“One Colorado informs the public about the positions of elected officials and holds them accountable for their record on LGBTQ equality. We monitor and support state legislation, working to pass pro-LGBTQ bills and defeat any attack on our hard-fought victories.”

Senator Jessie Danielson

“Banning the gay and transgender panic defense in Colorado is a step forward for civil rights. I am honored that I could lend my support to advance legislation that protects vulnerable communities and holds violent offenders accountable.”
We make progress toward a more equitable future by mobilizing a statewide network of active supporters, advocates, and allies. One Colorado continues to grow a base of support for LGBTQ issues through these grassroots civic engagement efforts.

Success in the 2020 elections

- 94% of One Colorado’s 100,000 supporters turned out to vote
- 175 volunteers helped One Colorado achieve this record turnout
- 11,500 postcards and 22,000 mailers were sent to voters, urging them to vote
- 500 of our supporters renewed their voter registration in the lead-up to 2020 election
- As a result, Colorado elected a new pro-equality Senator to the US Senate, grew the Colorado Legislature’s pro-equality majority, and added another member to the LGBTQ Legislative Caucus, Representative Ortiz!

The US Census

- One Colorado held 3 virtual events to inform LGBTQ Coloradans about the importance of completing the Census
- 15,000 Coloradans were contacted to make sure they completed their Census

One Colorado Connects

- In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, One Colorado volunteers began reaching out to supporters, providing resources to mitigate negative impacts caused by the pandemic
- 21,000 supporters (most over the age of 50) were contacted by the summer of 2020

“Being able to reach out right now is so important. Sometimes you just need to hear someone say - we’re thinking of you. I was so glad I could do it. I got a lot out of it too.”

Shannara
One Colorado Connects Volunteer
As a 501c3 nonprofit organization, the One Colorado Education Fund operates through the generosity of donors and foundations. We are so grateful to everyone who has contributed in 2020 to support our mission of a fair and just Colorado for all!

**Revenue**
- Foundations: $672,103
- Contributions: $150,983
- Events: $87,086
- Earned Income & Interest: $4,879

**Total Revenue**: $902,464

**Expenses**
- Staff & Benefits: $537,342
- Programs: $223,490
- Administrative: $68,887
- Fundraising: $28,178

**Total Expenses**: $857,897

**Grants Awarded in 2020**
- Colorado Health Foundation
- Johnson Family Foundation
- Gill Foundation
- Colorado Democracy Network
- Rose Community Action Fund
- Rose Community Foundation
- Tobacco Free Kids Colorado
- Rx Abuse Leadership Initiative
- Help Colorado Now
- Caring for Colorado
- City of Denver COVID Relief Fund
- MoonSong Fund
- State Impact Project
- AT&T
- Civic Engagement Roundtable
- Paycheck Protection Program

**2020 Ally Awards Sponsors**
- Good Chemistry Nurseries
- Johnson & Klein Law, Verizon
- API Energy, BreakThru Beverage

“I contribute on a monthly basis because I believe the success of One Colorado enhances the lives of LGBTQ folks and the lives of every Coloradan. We are all worthy of love, family, health and equality and One Colorado has fought for these values for the last ten years.”
Centennial Club members donate a minimum of $100 each month or $1,200 annually. We are grateful for our Centennial Club members who have helped us accomplish so much in 2020!

John Lord
Grant Muller
Francisco Varela
Nita Tyler
Kim Bimestefer
David Cover
Roger Sherman
Dr. Daniel Reirden
Brandie Balken
Jay Seller
Larry Hoyt
Ann Wilson
Diane Kirkham
Kimberly Wolff
Paula Griesen
Barbara Frank
Scott Bitcon

Jeffrey Klein
Abram Urena
Darrell Watson
Darin Smith
Jay Swope
Charles Jordy
Michael Mansheim
John McHugh
Iris Halpern
Jerome Schroeder
Robert Dorshimer
Fran and Anna Simon
Pam Adams
Ginger Garite
Dennis Hamann
TJ Sullivan
Craig Tierney

John McHugh
Brandon Beston
Brad Clark
Richard Reasons
Mark Clouarte
Tim Tormoen
Martha Eubanks
Lydia McCoy
Kroenke Sports Holdings
Ethan Smith
Anna Costello
Austin Montoya
Steven Mena
Artiesha Maes
Chris Ross
Sunshine Morgan
Holly Armstrong

Donate: Your tax-deductible gift helps fund the projects and programs that make progress toward a fair and just Colorado for all!

Volunteer: You can make an impact by volunteering for phone banks to get out the vote, hosting tables at events, and helping out in the One Colorado office!

Subscribe & Follow: One Colorado keeps you informed about LGBTQ news, local events, and actions you can take to advocate for LGBTQ Coloradans and their families. Subscribe to our email list and follow us on our Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram accounts.