

November and
December 2018



"You may
say I'm a
dreamer, but
I'm not the
only one. I
hope
someday
you'll join us.
And the
world will live
as one."
— John
Lennon

PFLAG is an organization that provides support and information to parents and friends of the LGBTIQ+ community. This month's newsletter will be the final edition for the PFLAG 2018 Newsletter. PFLAG Brisbane wishes everyone in our community a restful, peaceful holiday season. We hope to see you back again in the new year, 2019.

A Year in Review – 2018

This year we have been fortunate to hear from several guest speakers, including:

March 2018 – Grace Grace, QLD MP for Education and Industrial Relations

Upon entry into her new government role, Grace was able to share with the PFLAG community her support for anti-bullying, mental health initiatives, and anti-discrimination laws at the federal level. In the time since her visit in March, our new Queensland MP for Education and Industrial Relations has continued support for the LGBTIQ+ community through personal appearances and support at our key events. Grace has been present at the recent Pride Parade and Fair, and hopes to reform the Birth, Death and Marriage Certificate requirements within Queensland, as well as re-addressing Queensland Government's initiative for "Safe Schools".

April 2018 - Dylan Barrett from QUAC (Queensland Aids Council),

Dylan is the Transgender Health Promotion and Community Development Officer. Dylan provided the PFLAG members with his views on his FTM experience in Brisbane. He also shared his hope for the future of MTF and FTM experiences for the next generation in our open and welcoming city. While his talk was specific to his personal experience, it was also aimed at the services that QUAC and the Brisbane/QLD government can provide young trans people and their families.

"Our lives
begin to
end the
day we
become
silent about
things that
matter."
Martin
Luther King
Junior

June 2018 – Olivia Donaghy, Leader of the Children’s Health Queensland gender service at Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital

Olivia and her staff provide a statewide hub for families of transgender young people in Queensland. She is a psychologist from the Child and Youth Mental Health Service and has worked in private practice for over a decade.

PFLAG was very fortunate to have Olivia and her co-worker presenting at our meeting informing us of the early development of transgender youth and the services provided by the unit at Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital.

PFLAG Activities and Participation in 2018

This year, PFLAG representatives have attended many events that support the LGBTQI+ community. Based on the pictures, it is safe to say that a good time was had by all of those who attended. Perhaps you will consider attending these events next year and join our community?

Trivia Night at the Wickham Hotel, August 2018



Wear It Purple Day, Queens Park, Brisbane City Centre on August 30. 2018



Brisbane Pride March and Fair, 22nd September 2018



December Fund Raising Effort for PFLAG Brisbane

Please support our effort in fundraising for PFLAG Brisbane ***by enjoying a meal at Grill'd in Ascot during December***. Once you make your food purchase, donate the bottle cap you are given by the staff to the PFLAG jar in order to earn \$\$ for our local PFLAG initiatives. Fundraising begins the 1st of December and runs until the 31st December at the Ascot Grill'd Burger Restaurant (eat-in or takeaway). Thanks in advance for your support!

Shelley Argent Nominated for Australian LGBTQI Award

Shelley Argent started the first PFLAG group in Brisbane, Australia many years ago. In the meantime, Shelley has been an important figure in the local, regional and national political scene highlighting LGBTI rights. Over the years, Shelley has grown PFLAG's presence in Australia, and has held the position of PFLAG - Brisbane's president and an active committee member, as well as a supporter of starting new groups around Australia. Additionally, Shelley has been hailed the National Spokesperson for PFLAG all over Australia. Let us all support Shelley in her nomination to the Australian LGBTQI Awards!

Interesting link:

Queensland Police Survey – the Qld Police has established an LGBTIQ+ Community Consultative group to build relationships, increase understand and ensure effective communication between the Qld Police Services and organisations influential in the LGBTI+ communities. This link sends you to a survey to help the Qld Police to meet the LGBTI+ community's needs. Please feel free to participate in the survey by clicking the link below:

<https://qps.checkboxonline.com/Community-Consultative-Group.aspx>

PFLAG - A year in retrospect:

How fortunate are we to have a supportive community of parents, friends and professional allies who can relate to our personal journey of coping and/or learning about the experience of an LGBTIQ+ family member or friend? Also, how fortunate we are to have these people in our lives and what can we learn from them?

Looking forward to 2019

Pasi Linnosto

PFLAG President

PFLAG Membership



PFLAG is organised and resourced by volunteers and 100% of our funds, including your membership fees, goes to improving our services to you and parents seeking support. We are encouraging people to ensure they pay their annual membership (\$25). Whilst paid membership is not compulsory to receive support, it does help us to improve PFLAG resources, keep our website up to date and help cover some of our general administration costs. Go to our membership webpage @ www.pflagbrisbane.org.au/membership for more information.