



THE CENTER

THE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL &
TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY CENTER

2025

ANNUAL REPORT

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO, DR. CARLA SMITH

Dear Friend of The Center - Like many members of our community, when I first arrived in New York over two decades ago, I sought a sense of place in this vast, vibrant city. I found belonging, acceptance, and profound safety at The Center. That enduring feeling is why The Center must always remain a beacon of hope and a home where every generation can find its footing, discover its power, and fully realize its potential.

Today, the responsibility to protect this sanctuary has never been greater. I am filled with pride for what we have accomplished over the last 24 months of immense transition. We've moved from a posture of anticipation to one of decisive, strategic action. Through disciplined financial restructuring and scenario planning, we achieved a \$1.7 million increase in net assets in FY25, our first increase since FY21. We directed those resources to our signature, high-demand programs. We've also dynamically grown our community lifeline. Our affirming mental health clinic opened its doors at the end of FY25, and we launched a unique, trauma-informed housing referral program for victims of domestic violence.

As I celebrate our successes, I remain clear-eyed about the work ahead. We are operating in a climate of escalating political hostility and severe economic pressures, where our rights and safety are under coordinated attack nationwide.

At the same time, The Center is confronting a shifting philanthropic landscape, inflation, and nearly \$2 million in essential federal funding at risk. These challenges are a powerful reminder of why our collective strength, vigilance, and advocacy are indispensable.

For that reason, we joined *SFAF v. Trump* as a plaintiff, represented by Lambda Legal, and successfully secured a preliminary injunction, which at the moment, protects our federal grants from discriminatory executive orders. We also continue to collaborate with organizations across New York City and within the State to ensure the LGBTQ+ social service safety net remains strong.

We are not looking back, and instead remain committed to innovating to meet demand. In 2026, we launched a city-wide hotline for survivors of intimate partner violence in our community. And I am excited to share more of our new programming directions as we begin a much-needed resiliency planning process with our board, staff, and community members in 2026.

Your generosity, advocacy, and belief in our mission mean so much to me. Together, we will write the next chapter of this organization's legacy, one defined by resilience and inclusivity.

With gratitude and determination,



Dr. Carla Smith, CEO
The NYC LGBT Community Center

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT JILL SCHLESINGER

Dear Community,

I am writing on behalf of a committed and energized Board of Directors that supports the vision and values of The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center.

The Board oversees and supports The Center's wide-ranging services, including recovery and wellness programs, economic advancement initiatives, family and youth support, advocacy, arts and cultural programming, and space for community organizing, connection, and celebration. Each Board member has experienced the vital connections that The Center provides, as the physical and emotional hub for LGBTQ+ New Yorkers.

The Center reflects a diverse and evolving community, whose needs have grown and changed over the more than four decades of our existence. Throughout those years, The Center has provided a sense of belonging to community members, a resource for those in need of support and guidance, and a place where activism lives and breathes.

The Board provides the ballast to The Center's strategic vision and direction. We help ensure that The Center remains true to its mission,

evolves to meet the needs of the community, and continues to be financially secure.

Our resolve is clear, as we use every means possible to support The Center's vital role in a community that never backs down. The Board of Directors is privileged to serve with Dr. Carla Smith and The Center's passionate and talented leadership team and staff, whose critical work unites our community, donors, and volunteers in creating a better future that we all seek.

Thank you for your support,



Jill Schlesinger, Board President
The NYC LGBT Community Center

FINANCIALS

A Year of Responsible Financial Stewardship

	2025			2024		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
SUPPORT AND REVENUES						
● Special events revenue	\$5,363,996	\$ -	\$5,363,996	\$5,600,051	\$ -	\$5,600,051
● Government grants	6,342,515	-	6,342,515	5,650,258	-	5,650,258
● Contributions	1,856,554	2,854,530	4,711,084	1,695,777	1,450,304	3,146,081
● Contributions and nonfinancial assets	373,850	-	373,850	391,666	-	391,666
● Legacies and bequests	1,603,172	-	1,603,172	276,822	-	276,822
● Program revenue	12,312	-	12,312	21,704	-	21,704
● Medicaid and other third party payors	1,151,515	-	1,151,515	1,049,251	-	1,049,251
● Membership fees	339,437	-	339,437	322,493	-	322,493
● Space usage fees	587,221	-	587,221	446,497	-	446,497
● Investment income, net	251,925	-	251,925	341,215	-	341,215
● Change in value of beneficial interest in charitable remainder trust	-	114,216	114,216	-	152,204	152,204
● Net assets released from restrictions	2,327,452	(2,327,452)	-	2,967,166	(2,967,166)	-
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES	\$19,576,469	\$641,294	\$20,217,763	\$17,994,812	\$(1,364,658)	\$16,630,154
EXPENSES						
Program Services						
● Youth Programs	\$5,862,287	\$-	\$5,862,287	\$2,558,599	\$-	\$2,558,599
● Adult Services	8,339,383	-	8,339,383	11,027,525	-	11,027,525
● Arts and Culture	310,782	-	310,782	402,804	-	402,804
Total Program Services	\$14,512,452	\$-	\$14,512,452	\$13,988,208	\$-	\$13,988,208
Supporting Services						
● Management and General	\$979,126	\$-	\$979,126	\$1,217,756	\$-	\$1,217,756
● Fundraising	3,092,573	-	3,092,573	3,818,269	-	3,818,269
Total Supporting Services	\$4,071,699	\$-	\$4,071,699	\$5,036,025	\$-	\$5,036,025
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$18,584,151	\$-	\$18,584,151	\$19,024,233	\$-	\$19,024,233

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

 **29,800+**
DIRECT SERVICES
DELIVERED TO CLIENTS

 **3,000+**
PEOPLE GUIDED THROUGH
THE PROCESS OF GAINING
HEALTH COVERAGE

 **400**
GROUPS REGULARLY
USED OUR SPACE

 **1,700**
MENTAL HEALTH
SERVICES PROVIDED

 **2,500**
PEOPLE ENGAGED IN
ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

 **10,470**
HOURS BOOKED BY
EXTERNAL GROUPS

 **7,000**
PEOPLE ATTENDED OUR
COMMUNITY EVENTS

 **200,000**
ANNUAL VISITORS

SEXUAL ORIENTATION*

Gay or Lesbian	45.38%
Bisexual	16.73%
Heterosexual	6.16%
Queer	13.88%
Questioning	1.61%
Asexual	1.47%
Pansexual	7.05%
Other	1.65%
Decline to Answer	5.09%
Prefer to Self Describe	41.96%

GENDER IDENTITY*

Woman (Cis or Trans)	25.35%
Man (Cis or Trans)	48.37%
Genderqueer/ Gender-nonconforming	5.67%
Prefer to Self Describe	4.37%
Declined to Answer	3.93%

RACIAL IDENTITY*

Black, African America, Afro-Caribbean, or African Descent	22.31%
Hispanic or Latino/a/x	20.88%
American Indian, First Nations, or Indigenous	0.45%
Asian (including East, Southeast and South)	6.87%
Middle Eastern	1.25%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.04%
White	27.98%
More Than One Race	16.60%
Prefer to Self Describe	1.12%
Decline to Answer	2.50%

40%
of The Center's
clients identify as
trans or gender-
expansive

AGES

21 and Younger	21.56%
22-30	31.77%
31-40	27.89%
41-50	11.07%
51 and Older	7.67%

*Clients can choose more than one option when filling out the program intake form.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

While political and social headwinds continue to gather strength, and vital federal and corporate funding becomes scarce, our commitment to providing a sanctuary for our community remains absolute. In 2025, we focused on our high-demand signature programs, ensuring that every dollar invested was channeled into life-affirming impact. The milestones below are a testament to what your support made possible.

EXPANDING THE HORIZONS OF AFFIRMING MENTAL HEALTHCARE

Following our foundational licensing milestone, we officially opened our Article 31 Mental Health Clinic in May 2025, marking a bold and necessary expansion in care. As the demand for LGBTQ+ affirming mental health services continues to rise, this clinic stands as a lifeline. We are bridging critical gaps in New York City's healthcare ecosystem by providing long-term, trauma-informed mental health therapy and psychiatric care tailored specifically to LGBTQ+ adults, families, and adolescents aged 13 and older. The new clinic has served more than 120 clients, offering each the opportunity to engage in long-term, affirming counseling. The demand for services has come without external marketing or promotion, powerfully validating our belief that the clinic would become a vital resource for our community.



EXPANDING SAFE, TRAUMA-INFORMED HOUSING SOLUTIONS

The Center successfully launched a first-of-its-kind pilot program in partnership with the Urban Resource Institute (URI) to address the critical and urgent need for shelter access among LGBTQ+ survivors of intimate partner violence. Through this groundbreaking, transitional housing initiative, exclusive access is being provided to 13 LGBTQ+ individuals who face systemic barriers to accessing traditional domestic violence shelters. Under this model, the full rent and utilities are covered for one year, and participants are connected directly to URI's Economic Empowerment Program (EEP) to receive employment and financial support.

All participants are referred directly through The Center's case management program, ensuring that the people who need these services most are seamlessly identified and connected with comprehensive care. By pairing emergency stability with targeted housing navigation to help participants secure permanent, affirming housing, this initiative marks a pivotal milestone in expanding trauma-informed housing options. This coordination reflects a deep commitment to serving LGBTQ+ survivors with dignity and stands as a powerful example of what targeted, community-centered partnerships can achieve.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

YOUTH SERVICES

Center Youth provides LGBTQ+ young people and allies with essential community support to foster healthy development in a safe, affirming, and substance-free environment. Center Youth build connections and express themselves through a variety of drop-in groups, Summer Camp, and the Youth Pride Chorus. For young people seeking deeper civic and professional growth, The Center offers two formal programs: ROAR, a paid, cohort-based social justice initiative that equips youth to organize community projects and lead social change, and READY, a career empowerment program providing resume development, interview strategy, and paid internship placements for high school juniors and seniors. At the heart of all of our youth programming is a model of wrap-around care: through comprehensive staff assessments, participants are directly connected to recovery and mental health services whenever needed, ensuring every young person has the resources, safety, and support to thrive.

DRIVING ADVOCACY AND ACTION

The Center advanced LGBTQ+ rights through advocacy, coalition building, and leadership development at the city, state, and national levels. Throughout the year, we mobilized staff, youth participants, and community members to advocate for LGBTQ+ equality, with a particular focus on protecting transgender and gender nonconforming (TGNC) communities, while expanding the New York LGBT Health & Human Services Network by welcoming 14 new member organizations. We invested in the next generation of BIPOC leaders through our Activist-in-Residence Fellowship, where 10 emerging and established activists led projects advancing issues including lesbian visibility, Black TGNC advocacy, mutual aid programs, queer publishing, immigrant and disability rights, and mental health.

GREATER INTEGRATION OF CLINICAL AND PRACTICAL SERVICES

Launching our Mental Health Clinic further expanded how our services strengthen and reinforce each other. Today, community members may access our clinical care, HIV services, and youth programming alongside our dedicated case managers who help them secure health insurance, SNAP benefits, housing, and legal aid. No matter what someone faces, they receive warm, coordinated care every step of the way.





World of Red Ball



AAPI Food Festival

CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITY

The vibrant and diverse LGBTQ+ community is at the heart of everything we do at The Center. Throughout 2025, we brought people together through events that created opportunities for joy, growth, and belonging. Highlights included the **World AIDS Day Ball** and **Trans Day of Visibility Pop-Up Market**. We also invested in our young leaders, with a special visit from the cast of **RuPaul's Drag Race All Stars** for Center Youth members, and a professional development partnership with Theory, which provides LGBTQ+ young adults with office-ready attire, interview coaching, and professional headshots. And we brought back the nostalgia of The Center dances with the return of **Dance: 208**, an evening of dance classics designed for community members over the age of 40.

Center the Culture is our initiative dedicated to uplifting the voices and experiences of Black and LGBTQ+ people of color. Our annual **Juneteenth Block Party** was a joyful event featuring live performances, spoken word, Black-owned businesses, and food vendors. We also celebrated the power of food to connect people and cultures through our **AAPI Food Festival**, which showcased the rich diversity of Asian American and Pacific Islander culinary traditions.

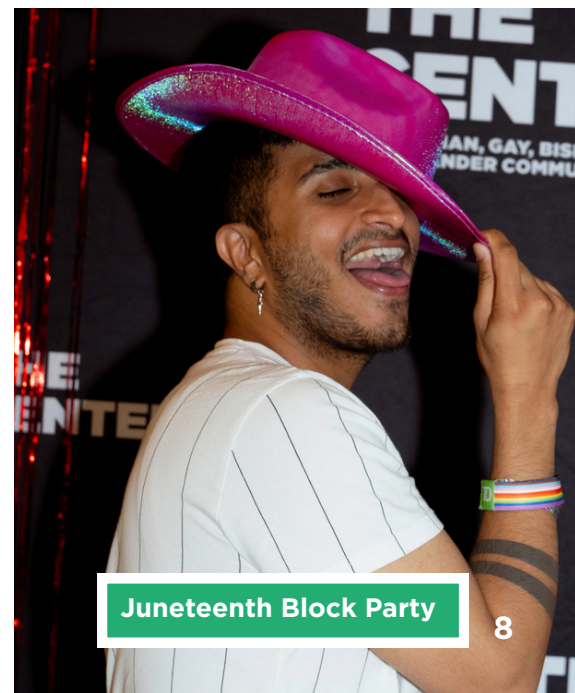
These experiences strengthen the bonds that unite our community and provide meaningful resources, opportunities for self-expression, and affirming spaces where community members feel seen and supported.



Transgender Day of Visibility



Dance: 208



Juneteenth Block Party

ACTIVATING OUR COMMUNITY

One of our greatest strengths is creating space for LGBTQ+ people and organizations to gather, organize, celebrate, and lead in ways that **reflect their own needs and priorities**. Throughout the year, we hosted hundreds of community events, meetings, performances, and partner programs in our building that brought people together, sparked new ideas, and strengthened connections. Here are just a few of the many ways our spaces came alive through the community we serve:

Queer in Every Career



Designed to link LGBTQ+ job-seekers to resources and career opportunities, this Center-sponsored event features dozens of employers, resume coaching, and mock interview sessions.

Rainbow Book Fair



Book Fair attendees connected with creators and writers whose work uplifts and reflects queer identity, activism, history, and joy.

The LGBT Bar NYC Legal Clinic



The LGBT Bar Association of New York connected with over 1,000 people through their weekly free drop-in legal clinics at The Center. Attorney volunteers help folks navigate a myriad of legal issues including housing, immigration, employment, name-changes, and discrimination.

NewFest



New York's premier LGBTQ+ film festival hosted screenings and conversations celebrating queer stories on screen.

LGBT Network Health Fair



The health fair offered free health screenings, wellness sessions, gender-affirming haircuts, and information about health and wellness resources available to the LGBTQ+ community.

SIGNATURE EVENTS THAT SHINE

Fundraising took on renewed urgency in 2025 as LGBTQ+ communities faced new and ongoing attacks on our rights, health, and well-being. Our supporters responded with extraordinary generosity. The steadfast commitment of our donors, partners, and community members helped The Center raise critical funds. Our hallmark events, **Women's Event** and **Center Dinner**, treated our guests to powerful mission moments and world class entertainment while raising over **\$2.3 million**.

Cycle for the Cause, The Center's annual three-day, 275-mile bike ride, once again showed the power of collective action. **Hundreds of cyclists, crew members, volunteers, and supporters** united around their shared commitment to ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic and supporting those affected by it. With **350 participants** representing **40 teams**, the 2025 ride raised over **\$2.2 million** to fund essential Center programs and services. Every mile traveled reflected the determination, compassion, and resilience that define this community.



Fashion Centered



Center Dinner



Women's Event



Cycle for the Cause

DONORS

Gifts July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

MAJOR DONORS

The Center gratefully acknowledges the generosity of our Leadership Society members, a dedicated group of philanthropists whose important investment through gifts of \$1,500 or more provide the foundation for The Center's vital programs and services, and make our life-saving and life-changing programs possible. Please visit gaycenter.org/leaders to learn more.

POWSNER COOPERBERG LEGACY SOCIETY (PCLS)

The Center gratefully recognizes our PCLS members whose inclusion of The Center in their estate plans ensures The Center's long-term future. Please visit gaycenter.org/legacy for the current roster of Legacy Society members. We also extend our gratitude to the following estates which actualized their beneficiary gifts to The Center in fiscal year 2025:

Ernest Benson Trust	Estate of Robert J. Gindlin	Robert K. Kellogg Revocable Trust
Estate of Alan Fleishman	Estate of Abraham Hecker	Estate of Vincent J. Ryan
Estate of John T. Gillespie	Estate of James Robert Johnson	Estate of Gregory E. Stein

CORPORATE PARTNERS

We are grateful to the corporations and organizations that supported The Center's mission and services in fiscal year 2025. Please visit gaycenter.org/corporate for the current list of our Annual Corporate Partners.

FOUNDING

Bank of America
Goldman, Sachs & Co
Jean Paul Gaultier

DIAMOND

Coty
Goldman, Sachs & Co
Milk Makeup
Northwell Health
Pandora Jewelry LLC
Tito's Handmade Vodka
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Amazon
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Faherty
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Match Group
Reckitt (Durex)
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GOLD

Balyasny Asset
Management
Deloitte Consulting LLP
Diageo
Ernst & Young
Match Group
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Schulte LLP
MetLife

SILVER

A&O Shearman
Amalgamated Bank
Astroglide/BioFilm
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MUFG Securities
National Grid
New Belgium Brewing Co.
Nomura
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PREMIER

Blackstone Charitable
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JPMorgan Chase

FOUNDATION SUPPORTERS

We are proud to recognize the following foundations that supported The Center's diverse range of programs and services with grants of \$5,000 or above in fiscal year 2025:

Altman Foundation	Hyde and Watson Foundation	Rocking Moon Foundation
Charles Hayden Foundation	Jonathan D + Mark C. Lewis Foundation	The Rothschild Foundation
The CIVIS Foundation	Keith Haring Foundation	Solon E. Summerfield Foundation, Inc.
The David Bohnett Foundation	Kors Le Pere Foundation	Starbucks Foundation
The David Geffen Foundation	Lower Manhattan Cultural Council	Teiger Foundation
Ford Foundation	The Nathan Cummings Foundation	Terrence McNally Foundation
Frances L. & Edwin L. Cummings Memorial Fund	New York Community Trust	Venable Foundation
Herman Liebmann Foundation	New York Health Foundation	Yale University
Hill-Snowdon Foundation	RBC Foundation	
Hispanic Federation	Research Foundation of CUNY	

BOARD MEMBERS

The Center's Board of Directors is responsible for oversight of the organization's operations and guiding The Center's long-term vision and planning. The Board also focuses on the continued financial stability of the organization and participates significantly in fundraising efforts. **(roster as of June 2026)**

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Jo-Ná A. Williams, Esq.

WAYS TO SUPPORT THE CENTER

To donate to The Center today, please visit gaycenter.org/give.

To give to The Center through a donor advised fund, visit gaycenter.org/daf.

To fundraise on behalf of The Center, visit gaycenter.org/fundraise.

To donate gifts of stock to The Center, visit gaycenter.org/stock.

To learn how to include The Center in your estate plans, visit gaycenter.org/legacy.

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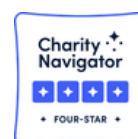
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The Center is proudly rated 4-Stars by Charity Navigator and earned the Gold Seal of Transparency by Candid.
Click the logos for more information.