



GROWING TOGETHER: AN LGBTQ FUND Grantmaking History

Over a 15-year history, the Growing Together Fund has distributed more than \$130,000 in grant funds to San Luis Obispo County organizations. The fund's initial grantmaking priorities were determined through a Community Scan survey and focused on community education, youth services, and LGBT organizational strengthening.

In 2002, six grants were funded, totaling \$25,500. The funded projects were:

“A LGBT Senior Survey”-**Gay & Lesbian Alliance** \$1,000: to identify specific needs of local seniors within the LGBT community and possible support services to be provided by GALA.

“Domestic Violence Outreach”-**Women’s Shelter Program of SLO County** \$1,000: to work with local LGBT organizations in developing an educational brochure and outreach/referral program

“Safe Schools Project”-**Parents, Family & Friends of Lesbians & Gays** \$5,000: to train school personnel about harassment and bullying issues related to LGBT youth, as well as strategies for intervention

“CommUnity Pride”-**Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals United** \$3,000: to support keynote speaker fees as part of a 10-day series of educational workshops and pride activities

“The Laramie Project” – **SLO Little Theatre** \$5,500: to support outreach and production costs for four benefit performances of The Laramie Project, with proceeds going to four local LGBT organizations.

“Organizational Capacity Building” –**Gay & Lesbian Alliance** \$10,000: to provide seed funding for establishment of a part-time center coordinator staff position, which will improve access to and utilization of GALA’s community center.

The second round of fund grants were awarded in June 2003. The Advisory Committee continued with a model of mini-grants and larger project grants. The funded projects were:

“Safe Schools” Training for staff, faculty and administrators of local schools to eliminate harassment of students; and to provide a resource library for staff at each site. \$4,250

Domestic violence outreach and development of a peer advocacy program within the LGBT community. \$7,000

“Respect Zone” training for students, faculty and staff of the local state university; and speaker’s fees for 2004 CommUnity Pride Week. \$6,550

Community outreach materials development for Tranz Central Coast, a grassroots support group for transgender/transsexual persons. \$1,000

Promotion of the availability of the PFLAG Hotline through increased advertising. \$500

Newsletter enhancement for the Gay & Lesbian Alliance. \$3,000

Purchase of a copier for the GALA Community Center. \$1,200

GALA Community Center staffing support. \$5,000

The 2004 grant cycled prioritized mental health and counseling service access for the LGBT community. A proposal review committee comprised of Advisory Committee Members along with two mental health therapists from the community assisted with evaluation. The approved grantees included:

Community Counseling Center

To develop and provide, in collaboration with a mental health professional association, a LGBTQ cultural competency training for mental health professionals and establish two support groups for LGBTQ individuals. \$3,500

EOC Health Services

To provide LGBTQ cultural sensitivity training for staff in their reproductive health and community education programs and implement “LGBTQ friendly” program practices. \$4,036

This grant was also highlighted in the California Family Health Council Summer 2004 newsletter, as EOC Health Services is one of their grantees and tapped into CFHC’s training center for the workshop facilitator.

Hospice of SLO County

Sharing our Grief - to support expanded access to bereavement services for the LGBT community and conduct cultural competency in-service for staff and volunteers. \$2,920

In keeping with the Initiative’s desire to build the capacity of local LGBT organizations, a grant was given to:

Gay & Lesbian Alliance of the Central Coast

To improve utilization of the LGBT community center through space reconfiguration and to support programmatic capacity building for the Youth Project and four community forums. \$6,280

The 2005 grant cycle continued prioritization of mental health and counseling service access. However very few proposals were received.

Community Counseling Center

To provide, in collaboration with a mental health professional association, a local LGBTQ training for mental health professionals and implement three weekly support groups for LGBTQ individuals. \$4,896

Gay & Lesbian Alliance of the Central Coast

To address community education needs and programs for LGBTQ youth through development of “The History Project” – a video documentary of local LGBT community members \$5,000

The 2006 grant cycled focused on youth services and community education. Mini-grants were distributed to:

EOC Health Services

To market LGBTQ friendly reproductive health services for youth and adults - \$1,000

Nipomo High School

To support continuity and sustainability of the Gay-Straight Alliance Club on campus - \$500

SLO County Bar Association

To conduct two workshops on the changing Domestic Partnership Laws in California - \$2,000

SLO County Office of Education

To sponsor LGBTQ youth and GSA advisors to participate in the Asset Development Conference in 2007 - \$450

In 2007 through 2012 grants continued its focus on youth services and community education. Mini-grants were distributed to:

Asset Development Network

To support the development of the teen theater group to increase awareness of LGBTQI bullying and other types of bullying. - \$1,000

Cuesta Gay Straight Alliance

To support club activities and greater visibility on campus - \$500.

Gay and Lesbian Alliance of the Central Coast

To support Board Development through sponsorship of attendance by youth Board Member to attend the Creating Change Conference - \$500

Gay and Lesbian Alliance of the Central Coast

To support creation of a History of Pride educational exhibit and to implement a community education program during the 2010 Pride Festival - \$980

Gay and Lesbian Alliance of the Central Coast

Senior Cultural Competency Training Program - To provide training to healthcare service providers to help meet the unique needs of older LGBTQI patients/clients of healthcare facilities and social service agencies - \$1,500

LifeBound Leadership

To implement a LGBTQ inclusivity education, community engagement and advocacy program for 24 youth, ages 16-18. - \$3,000

Nipomo High School GSA

To support continuity and sustainability activities of the Club - \$500

Planned Parenthood of SLO

To implement a series of health education sessions for the LGBTQ community. - \$3,000

Sexual Assault Recovery & Prevention Center

To pilot a self-defense training program for gay men - \$500

SLO County Office of Education

To sponsor LGBTQ youth and GSA advisors to participate in the Asset Development Conference in 2010 - \$500

SLO High School Gay Straight Alliance

To support club activities – gay prom and youth forum - \$500

Templeton High School Gay Straight Alliance

To support club activities and visibility on campus - \$500

Transitions-Mental Health Association

Mental Health & Wellness Ally Training - To expand TMHA Ally Training and make it available to other health and human service providers throughout SLO County - \$2,500

Tranz Central Coast

To support implementation of therapist-led support groups and audio-visual equipment for community education programs. - \$1,000

Women’s Shelter Program, Inc.

To support the LGBTQ outreach project addressing issues of intimate partner violence. - \$1,000

YMCA of SLO County

To support Inclusivity Marketing and Cultural Competency Training for staff. - \$1,000

YMCA of SLO County

To establish and implement “No Place for Hate” campaign in all their program sites. - \$810

In 2013 through 2016 grants continued its focus on youth services and community education as well as the implementation of the FAIR Education Act.

Cal Poly LGBTQIA Faculty Staff Association

To support “Gay Counter-Acculturation” educational presentations by author David Halperin on campus in October 2013 for students, staff and community members. - \$1,000

Gay and Lesbian Alliance

“LGBT Legal Forum” - To implement an educational forum on the impact on LGBT individuals of the SCOTUS ruling to overturn DOMA - \$150

AIDS Support Network

“Fusion” to support SLO's sole HIV prevention and education program for LGBTQIA youth - \$3,000

Atascadero High School Gay-Straight Alliance

“Our Voice” - To advance the relationship between the GSA and the adult membership of the GALA Center in SLO for learning about the equality movement. - \$210

Big Brothers Big Sisters

“Community Based Mentoring” - To support LGBTQI youth who have experienced discrimination and/or bullying by matching them with appropriately trained mentors, and to integrate culturally appropriate training for parents and mentors in the organization. - \$3,000

SLO High School Gay-Straight Alliance

To support club sustainability through purchase of club t-shirts, and to host a club picnic to increase membership and visibility. - \$500

Templeton High Gay-Straight Alliance

To support club sustainability and increase on campus awareness with distribution of club t-shirts - \$381

Cal Poly Corporation as fiscal agent for Central Coast Coalition for Inclusive Schools

To support the development of youth leaders in local high school Gay Straight Alliances and document initiatives and changes that arise from the supports provided. - \$3,000

Community Counseling Center

LGBTQ Youth Affirmative Strategies & Interventions training workshop for mental health providers; school districts, and youth/family serving agencies. \$525

Your True Gender

To support costs for first Transgender Educational Conference in SLO County. - \$2,000

Access Support Network of SLO & Monterey Counties

To support “Know Your Status,” a day long program on the Cal Poly campus with panel presentations on HIV Stigma, pre-exposure prophylaxis, free HIV testing, and special guest speakers. - \$1,000

Transitions Mental Health Association

To support the 2016 Suicide Prevention Program with specific focus on mental health and suicide ideation in the LGBTQI community, including Supportive Mental Health Services AND Bullying/Harassment/Discrimination. - \$2,500

In 2017, GTI continued to provide funding of \$14,800 to a broad variety of community needs supporting the local LGBTQ Community.

Arroyo Grande High School LGBT+ Club

To fund the re-emerging club which provides a safe space for LGBT students and a place for allies to discuss LGBT topics and issues. - \$500

Morro Bay High School Sexuality and Gender Alliance (SAGA)

To support the organization's work in providing a safe space LGBT+ students and allies as well as to discuss social issues for the LGBT+ community. - \$500

RISE

LGBTQIA Support Group & Community Case Management to support, expand, and strengthen existing Supportive Mental Health Services and outreach to the LGBTQIA community. - \$3,000

Cal Poly Corporation: Central Coast Coalition for Inclusive Schools (CCC4IS)

To support building capacity in the SLO community to support LGBTQIA+ Youth with a variety of programs. - \$3,000

Cuesta College Foundation

Safe Zone Ally Training: To support students, including those who identify as LGBTQI, who struggle with mental health challenges that affect their academic success and their overall health and wellbeing. Creation of a "What is an Ally?" video. - \$3,000

Women's Shelter Program of San Luis Obispo County

To support mental health services for youth by updating LGBT promotional materials and brochures. - \$1,000

Gay and Lesbian Alliance of the Central Coast (GALA) Senior Advocacy

Senior Lesbian Isolation Solutions 2017 Grant: To support membership to SLO Village, a retirement model for seniors with access to volunteer services and social programs. This grant will allow 6-10 subsidized memberships for 1 year. - \$1,800

Cal Poly Queer C.A.R.E.S Program (through Cal Poly Corp)

SLO County LGBTQ+ Mental Health and Wellness Needs Assessment. To support a survey to collect data from SLO County residents who identify as LGBTQ regarding their mental health and services available to them. Information will be used to better direct future support - \$1,000

In 2018, GTI provided grant funding totaling \$10,500.

Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County

Inclusive Health Care – Youth & Providers Empowered. Funding for approximately 50 hours of health educator staffing. - \$3,000

Stand Strong (formally Women's Shelter Program of San Luis Obispo)

Cuesta Conmigo (Count on Me) – two groups serving between 8 and 12 individuals with one group in Spanish and the other in English. - \$3,000

Transitions Mental Health Association (TMHA)

Suicide Prevention Forum that will accommodate more than 200 attendees. - \$3,000

Tranz Central Coast (fiscal sponsor was GALA)

To support the “Teaching Transgender Training of Trainers” program to educate about the growing need for culturally sensitive and trans-affirming training and community outreach and including purchase of “The Teaching Transgender Toolkit” books. - \$1,000

Morro Bay High School Sexuality and Gender Alliance (SAGA)

To support the organization’s work in providing a safe space LGBT+ students and allies as well as to discuss social issues for the LGBT+ community. Funds will be used to purchase sweatshirts and materials for an art project open to all students. - \$500

In 2019, GTI increased grant funding from up to \$3,000 per grant to up to \$5,000 per grant, and also allowed for two-year programs. So far this year, \$20,150 has been awarded to programs supporting the local LGBTQ Community.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of San Luis Obispo County

One-to-One Mentoring for LGBTQI Youth and for enrollment and case management for the volunteer, child and guardian. - \$5,000

Planned Parenthood California Central Coast

Gender Affirming Care and the hiring of a Gender Affirming Care Patient Navigator- \$5,000

Transitions Mental-Health Associates (TMHA)

Support for sending two TMHA Program Managers and, hopefully, one teen resident of the Youth Treatment Program to the Gender Spectrum Conference and Professionals’ Symposium in Moraga, California, July 19-21, 2019. - \$3,000

Gay And Lesbian Alliance (GALA) of the Central Coast

This project would finish designing and implement no cost community LGBTQ+ 101 trainings for the San Luis Obispo community in various locations around the county. - \$4,150

Cuesta College Foundation

Cuesta College will implement a Campus Pride Safe Space Program that will increase awareness, knowledge of, and sensitivity to the needs of the LGBTQIAP community. - \$3,000

In 2020, GTF provided grant funding of \$15,000 to the following organizations and programs.

George Flamson Middle School Pride Club

Funding for GSA club t-shirts and club activities on campus. - \$500

Atascadero High School GSA Club

Funding for Pride Week materials to promote the club and for promotion of the club to the community in addition to a club field trip. - \$500

Big Brothers Big Sisters of San Luis Obispo County

Mentoring LGBTQI Youth program including continuation of one-to-one mentoring, enhanced mentor training around specific needs of LGBTQI youth, and anti-bullying / non-violence education for participants. - \$4,000

RISE

Support for a no-cost counseling program for LGBTQ+ sexual assault and intimate partner violence survivors. - \$3,000

Transitions – Mental Health Association

Creation and management of also County LGBTQ+ mental health task force. - \$5,000

Gala Pride and Diversity Center

An emergency grant in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to support operations. - \$2,000