

"Within these walls we expect to be treated with consideration and kindness. We expect our persons, our property, and our opinion to be respected. We expect to be free from violence and the threat of violence. We expect our disagreements to be resolved with sensitivity and goodwill."

originally posted in a LGBT Community Center in NYC

Central Illinois' LGBT Community Center

The Phoenix Center is the only LGBT Center in Illinois south of I-80 providing services daily. Individuals drive as far as 100+ miles for the services outlined below. To bring the LGBT community together, the Phoenix Center schedules social and educational events throughout the year. In 2011 Springfield PrideFest was added. This one day street festival welcomes over 10,000 people to enjoy live music, vendors, food, drinks, Kid's Area, Teen Lounge, a magnificent drag show, and lots of fun! It is held every year on the 3rd Saturday of May in historic downtown Springfield.

Youth Group

Our doors are open on Friday nights 6-9 p.m. for LGBT youth and supportive friends ages 13 to 17. The Center offers a safe, supportive space to meet friends, create art projects, sing karaoke, and learn about current events as they relate to being LGBT.

TransSupport Group

This group is for transgender adults to come together and discuss difficulties and successes, learn about resources and services, ask questions, and feel supported in a safe space. This group meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 6:30-8 p.m.

"If you're walking down the right path and you are willing to keep walking, eventually you'll make progress." Barack Obama

Phoenix Center Groups & Services

Parent Group

This group is for parents of LGBT children to come together, to give and receive support, and to learn from each other ways to best support their child. Meets the 1st Monday each month from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Project P.R.I.D.E.

Project PRIDE (Prevention, Referrals, Identity, Develop relationships, Educate) is various types of outreach throughout the community. Prevention efforts include free condom & lube distribution, risk reduction sessions and information about PREP, PEP, STDs, and HIV/AIDS. Referrals are available for medical and mental health services, food, clothing, shelter, etc. We help identify those at risk and provide testing and other services. Developing relationships is part of our networking with other agencies to better serve. The Phoenix Center is part of the Heartland Continuum of Care and CenterLink, and we work closely with numerous agencies, medical providers, and businesses to improve the quality of life for the LGBT and HIV+ communities. Programming is available to help Educate those of all ages in the community about LGBT issues and HIV/AIDS prevention. The Center offers **FREE Training-LGBT: What You Need To Know** - 4 CEUs for \$25 and Transgender 101 - 2 CEUs for \$15. To schedule, call the Center.

Let's Talk / Counseling

Sometimes when a person is struggling with LGBT issues they need someone to talk to or they need more information. If this is the case, we are here for you - LET'S TALK. Call and schedule an appointment. If you need more long-term counseling / therapy, we will point you in the right direction with a referral that best fits your needs. **NEVER** be afraid to ask for help.

SPRINGFIELD PRIDEEST

Celebrated the 3rd Saturday in May, downtown Springfield, this is a free, family friendly event celebrating the LGBT community.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Billy's House

Billy's House is a program to provide transitional housing to homeless men and women who are HIV+. This program provides up to 24 months of housing with comprehensive case management. The objective of Billy's House is to protect individuals from further risks to their health and well being by providing a safe, supportive environment where services and referrals promote physical and mental health while helping residents work towards independence.

PC3 House

There are many LGBT individuals who are kicked out of their homes, abused by their family members, and they feel very isolated. PC3 is a program to provide housing to homeless lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender individuals. The objective is to get LGBT individuals into an environment that is supportive, address issues and needs and set goals to help them move forward.

SHARI Project

SHARi, Springfield Harm Reduction Initiative, is a syringe exchange, harm reduction program. This program offers people who inject drugs clean needles, and supplies, as well as **Naloxone** (with training) in an effort to reduce the transmission of HIV and Hepatitis C. To enroll in the program you do not have to give your name or address. Referrals for other services and treatment are also available.

FREE TESTING

HIV & Hepatitis C testing & counseling are free and confidential. Both tests require a finger stick to obtain a drop of blood. You will have your results in approximately 20 minutes. If you are not sure about how HIV & Hepatitis C is transmitted, please see our website for a list of behaviors that may place you at risk. **Gonorrhea & Chlamydia:** Testing for these two STDs requires a urine sample. This test is sent to a lab and your results are available in 7-14 days.

History & Mission

The *Phoenix Center* was founded on April 1, 2001, by a group of gay and lesbian teenagers wanting to create a safe place to meet. The *Phoenix Center* is Central Illinois' only lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) community center. We are committed as a resource and social center for LGBT individuals and their friends and family. In addition, the Center offers a variety of services for HIV+ men and women and individuals who are at-risk for HIV and Hepatitis C.

The mission of *The Phoenix Center* is to support Central Illinois' LGBT Community with programming for promoting equality, health & well being, and social & educational growth.

STAFF

Jonna J. Cooley, PhD	Executive Director
Ruth Ann Bertram, BS	Director of Clinical Services
Megan Poole, BS	Director of Housing
Sara Bowen, MPH	Director of Outreach Services
Nick Bond, MA, LCPC	Youth Director
Tiffany Mathis, BA	Youth Group Facilitator
Cory Blissett, MA, CRC	Youth Group Facilitator
Brennen Bradley, MS	TranSupport Facilitator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

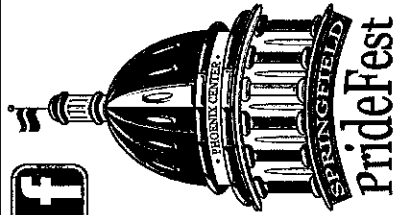
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THE COMMUNITY OF LGBT CENTERS



We are the proud organizers of
Springfield PrideFest.

If you would like to be on a
committee, volunteer,
donate, or sponsor -

Please call 217-528-5253
www.springfieldpride.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

FREE HIV / HCV Testing: M-F Noon - 3:00 p.m. OBA

FREE STD Testing: M-F Noon - 3:00 p.m. OBA

FREE Condoms: M-F 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

SHAHI Project: M-F 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. OBA

YOUTH Group: Every Friday 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

TranSupport Group: 3rd Thursday - 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Parent Group: 1st Monday - 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

owLGBT (50+ group): 4th Thursday - 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Planned Parenthood HRT Intake - by appointment

Housing Intake - by appointment

Check the website for Pride Patio events, special
events & classes.

OBA= Or By Appointment

THE PHOENIX CENTER

109 East Lawrence Avenue
Springfield, IL 62704

217-528-5253 phone

217-528-5260 fax

www.phoenixcenterspringfield.org

www.springfieldpride.org

Phoenix Center



Opening Minds. Growing Pride.

Central Illinois' LGBT Community Center