

# POWERED BY COMMUNITY inspired by love

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2022 Annual Report

## OUR Vigion

Uniquely situated at the intersection of LGBTQ and family justice work, OFC is powered by community and inspired by a love of children and families, and a vision of a just society where we all belong and thrive.

We seek to create an inclusive and just world where all LGBTQ families and children have visibility and opportunities to thrive as valued participants in our schools, institutions, and communities.

## OUR mission

Our Family Coalition advances equity for the full and expanding spectrum of LGBTQ families and children through support, education, and advocacy.

## OUR THEORY OF change

Our Family Coalition brings a unique and progressive voice of families to the LGBTQ movement. We cultivate community-based leadership among LGBTQ families and strong partnerships with our allies in California, to advance social justice and make our nation a more respectful and inclusive place for all.

OUR ORGANIZATIONAL Truche



OURpeople

#### **Board of Directors**

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### 2022 YEAR in review

2022 was an important year for Our Family Coalition. After overcoming the challenges of the last two years, 2022 began a return to normalcy and stability. We published and released our community needs assessment. This assessment has provided us with valuable information on what our families want and need. As such, we began the year implementing some of the feedback that we have received from you, our valued community.



Another major step that we took as an organization in 2022 was to meet the essential needs of our community members. Understanding that a large number of our LGBTQ communities in the Bay Area were already struggling in meeting their personal needs prior to COVID, we wanted to step up as an organization to help meet some of those needs. One of the ways we did this was offering family navigation services to help connect folks with resources. We also continued to provide thousands of dollars of support to families to help pay for their utilities or rent, in addition to distributing \$12,000 in vegetable vouchers. Finally, in partnership with the Liberation Institute, we began offering free and culturally affirming mental health services to community members.

We started in-person programming in 2022 and our participation increased dramatically. Our programming in 2022 served over 4,000 people, which is over four times the number of people we served last year. We also held 27 trainings, held 139 programs and 14 events. One of the major events we held last year was our return to Pride. That's right... we were finally available to celebrate Pride with our families. We hosted a family space at Fairyland during Oakland's Pridefest and did the same at Trans March in San Francisco, in addition to marching on Sunday in the city for Pride. We were also able to set up a camping trip for our Trans and Gender non-conforming families in partnership with Camp It Up. In fact, another important measure we took during the year was rekindling so many of our past partnerships with area organizations to bring back programming that our families had missed and wanted.



Last but not least, it was beautiful to be able to spend so much more time with our community. Last year we went back to meeting in-person for Night Out, our annual fundraiser gala. We held our event in the gorgeous National AIDS Memorial Grove. We were also able to provide a couple of community tables so that community members could come and celebrate with us. The event felt magical. Equally beautiful was our first ever Intergenerational Townhall Cookout at Crown Memorial Beach in Alameda. All in all, 2022 had many beautiful and lovely moments, and I welcome the opportunity to create and participate in even more joyous times in the coming year.

**Mimi Demissew** 

**Executive Director** 

## DIRECT PROGRAMMING & SERVICES highlights

#### Pride

After a long two years, OFC was finally able to go back to attending PRIDE in person and we made sure to show up. We kicked off San Francisco Pride weekend at Trans March. We later marched in the San Francisco Pride Parade with the Resistance Contingent, and were joined by student activists who carried our banner through the whole march! We ended the summer in Oakland at Fairyland with a family garden at Pridefest. Guests enjoyed bubble art, face painting, live dance performances, and literacy activities.

#### **Egg Meets Sperm**

Our annual Egg Meets Sperm social returned this year. This event allows community members who are interested in having biological children meet one another in order to consider potentially moving forward with known sperm and or egg donors for their individual family formation journeys.

#### **Curated Workshop Series & Trainings**

We relaunched our series of curated speakers and trainings to provide our community free and accurate information. Some of the more prominent panels we held this year included: Discussing Your Kid's Donor Origins, Queer and Trans Mothers: The Legal Landscape in 2022, LGBTQ-Inclusive Puberty & Sex Ed Curricula, and Parent Power: Preventing Sexual Abuse. All of our speaker series include power house powerhouse subject matter experts and community activists to provide reliable information to our community members.

#### **Parent Action Boards**

Our parent affinity groups meet with OFC to discuss current issues facing LGBTQ parents and their children. These members tell us what affirming programming looks like in order for OFC to stay community-driven, in addition to giving us the opportunity to advocate on behalf of our community.

#### **Trans and Gender Non-Conforming Parent Support Group**

This peer support group meets monthly and provides a safe and affirming space for our Trans<sup>\*</sup> and GNC parents. The parents share meals, stories, and peer support while their children are playing safely at the OFC childcare space, giving the parents the ability to be fully present with each other.



#### **Family Navigation**

Our drop-in service allows community members to come in or call our offices in order to receive assistance in accessing resources for themselves or their families.

#### **Intergenerational OFC Family Cookout & Townhall**

We held our Second Annual Cook Out and Townhall this year at Crown Memorial Park in partnership with Open House, making this year's townhall our first ever intergenerational event. We had LGBTQ families with their children present with elders from Open House. It was another wonderful event where families spoke about their needs and wants, and also listened to our Executive Director speak about where the organization is headed. Families were invited to have lunch and share how the needs of their families shifted throughout the pandemic.



#### **Non-Bio/Non-Gestational Parent Support Group**

Something unique to our community is the vast potential of having one parent linked biologically to a child while the other parent is not. This distinction creates a set of unique challenges when raising children within the family structure. This facilitated peer group creates a space for these parents to speak about their unique needs and provides an opportunity to receive support, community, and sometimes, solutions. The parents who attend these sessions range from trying to conceive through dealing with teenagers and older children.

#### **Postpartum Support Group**

Becoming a parent is a massive transformation. Participants have the opportunity to be in a space with LGBTQ folks who've given birth to talk about some of the challenges of the postpartum period, and provide peer support for one another while parenting during such a challenging historical moment. This is a therapist-facilitated group.

#### **Prospective and Expectant Parent Support Group-**

Whether you're trying to conceive, using surrogacy, or going through the adoption process, participants come to connect with others and share what is on their minds in this peer support group for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and queer prospective and expectant parents. This is a facilitator-led group.

## POLICY & ADVOCACY highlights

- **OFC Co-Sponsors SB951** to expand the state's wage replacement rate to 90% for workers who need to take Family or Disability Leave. This law also changes the definition of low-wage worker by increasing the threshold to qualify in order to include a larger population of California workers. This is of particular interest to our communities given that we are more likely to be in lower paying jobs.
- **OFC Signs on ACLU letter** requesting State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Thurmond, that the California Department of Education Action ensures that local education agencies are not censoring accurate and inclusive education.

#### OFC continued to support the Chosen Family Bill (AB 1041) in

partnership with California Work & Family Coalition. This bill would expand caregiving leave to a designated person. This bill was finally signed in 2022 after a long two-year battle.

**OFC released a Title 9 Regulations Document** to provide folks with a way to make public comments on the new Title 9 regulation.











FINANCES & development

Our Annual Night Out Gala made a triumphant return to being held in-person. This year we held our event at the National AIDS Memorial Grove in the beautiful Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. The event itself felt magical and we were happy to have met our fundraising goal for the evening.

Despite the year-after-year decline in individual donations, which have been further exasperated with COVID, we continued to meet our financial goals. In fact, this year we surpassed our operating budget target projections by over 400%. This is the second year in a row that OFC has been able to achieve this. And while we continue to maintain our austerity measures, we have also been able to increase the benefits to our employees including salary increases for all staff.











#### OurFamily.org

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L-GENDER

Phone: (415) 981-1960 Fax: (415) 981-1962 info@ourfamily.org

#### **Main Office**

1385 Mission Street, Suite 330 San Francisco, CA 94103 unceded Ramaytush Ohlone Land

#### **East Bay Office**

970 Grace Ave Oakland, CA 94608 unceded Chochenyo/Karkin Ohlone Land



