WE THANK ALL OUR FUNDERS, DONORS, AND LGBTQ COMMUNITY CENTERS FOR BELIEVING IN OUR WORK AND SUPPORTING OUR EFFORTS IN CREATING A STRONGER LGBTQ COMMUNITY CENTER MOVEMENT.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING 2019 YET ANOTHER REMARKABLE YEAR FOR CENTERLINK!

This year marked our 25th anniversary of strengthening, supporting, and connecting LGBTQ community centers.

And while the landscape of community centers has changed significantly over the past quarter century, CenterLink’s role has not – we remain the only organization committed to advancing the success and sustainability of LGBTQ centers!

Centers are the heart and soul of LGBTQ communities – a place where people can find resources, services, support, and a safe, welcoming space to just ‘be’! Local LGBTQ centers work tirelessly to address the needs of their community, and we’re proud to stand behind them.

You see, supporting LGBTQ community centers isn’t just our job – it’s our passion. Our dedicated staff has done an incredible job of expanding our outreach and strengthening our programs and services. As you will note from the successes detailed in this year’s Annual Report, support like you have helped us create a larger, stronger, more united community center movement – connecting executive directors, CEOs, and program staff with their peers, providing education to board members, offering resources and leadership coaching and training, and creating even more funding streams for capacity-building and program advancement.

Leadership Summit attendance, serving over 250 LGBTQ centers and programs across the US, Canada, and beyond. We were on the ground visiting over 31 centers, and conducting 38 in-person trainings, in addition to the 639 virtual assistance requests we answered! We continue to develop new resources and forge new partnerships to support our members, and to serve as a voice for the LGBTQ community center movement, amplifying the vital and often lifesaving work they do each and every day.

We also spent a great deal of time in 2019 working on the future of CenterLink, to ensure that it will be there to serve our members well in the long term. Our Board of Directors embarked on updating our Strategic Plan to usher us into the new decade – listening to feedback from our members, our partners, and other key stakeholders. The plan will set the direction for our future work with members, funders, and partners, and for the important work we have committed to do around diversity, equity, and inclusion.

As we continue our journey of growth within our own organization and further strengthening our community center network, we are honored that you have chosen to join us as a partner, supporter, and friend. A tremendous thank you to all our funders, donors, and LGBTQ community center members for your generosity and belief in CenterLink.

SINCERELY,

STACIE WALLS
BOARD CO-CHAIR

ROBERT BOO
BOARD CO-CHAIR

DENISE SPIVAK
CEO
Our 13th Annual Leadership Summit held September 19-21, 2019 in Los Angeles at the Los Angeles LGBT Center saw our highest attendance ever with 279 total attendees including 130 returning attendees and 149 brand-new attendees. Our previous to date high was in 2018 with a total of 143 attendees.

In 2019 CenterLink provided over $300,000 in pass-through funding to support capacity-building efforts at seven centers across the U.S. Funding was used to expand staff, purchase technology, engage in strategic development, and more. Participating centers had budgets ranging from $50,000 to $250,000, and funding ranged from $25,000 to $50,000. The grant program was designed to increase sustainability of developing centers.

The 8th Annual Executive Director Boot Camp was held in Fort Lauderdale, FL, for center directors with 1-4 years of experience. Seventeen executive directors from 12 states attended. The program is an intensive 5-day training covering leadership, finance, fundraising, diversity, equity & inclusion, programming, board governance and more.

A total of 19 webinar sessions were presented during CenterLink’s annual E-Summit during the month of October. The sessions fell into at least one of the following 8 tracks: Health, Youth, Governance, Seniors, Trans and Gender Non-conforming, Advocacy, Fund Raising and Financial Health, and Leadership.

CenterLink provided grants to six member centers to expand the capacity of their mental health programming. The centers were: Edge Pride Center, In Our Own Voices, Out Boulder County, Side by Side, Time Out Youth, and Triangle Community Center. Funding totaled $150,000. Capacity building included purchase and implementation of an electronic medical record system, development and review of trauma-informed organizational policies and practices, and development and delivery of specific training programs around suicidality, critical incidence response, mental health first aid.

LGBT HealthLink provides member centers, agencies, and individuals with an ever-expanding library of LGBTQ health-related materials, all FREE! In 2019 we filled 288 individual orders, had 177 document downloads and more than 30 videos viewed from our online resource library.

CenterLink provided over $90,000 in sub-grant funding to five member centers to engage LGBTQ+ individuals to accelerate research and improve health through the All of Us Research Program. LGBT+ people, like many other groups, have often been left out of medical research. As a result, we know less about your health and ways to provide you with the best care. The All of Us Research Program wants to change this. The All of Us Research Program is a historic effort to collect and study data from one million or more people living in the United States. The goal of the program is better health for all of us.
Launched website enabling national promotion

Trained staff at 5 additional LGBTQ+ centers to facilitate discussions

Implemented ongoing monitoring and support system for Q Chat Space facilitators

Increased schedule to 10 weekly online supportive discussions

Disseminated promotion kit to LGBTQ+ centers and national partners

Launched Instagram and Facebook accounts and worked with Youth Advisory Panel to develop regular content

Conducted Instagram outreach campaign to reach Black youth in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi

Developed 2020 cohort of Youth Advisory Panel who created content for social media, attended discussions, and provided feedback

Completed implementation evaluation of national launch and training

MAY

Over 150 LGBT Community Centers sign a letter addressed to Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s office, advocating for the passage of the Equality Act. The Act passed in the House but failed to be heard in the Senate.

13,600 ACTIONLINK COMMENTS COLLECTED

JULY

ActionLink collects 13,600 comments in opposition to a proposed rule by the Dept. of Health and Human Services that was aimed at changing protections offered to LGBTQ people in Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act.

2,500+ ACTIONLINK COMMENTS COLLECTED

OCTOBER

The U.S. Supreme Court hears three cases to decide if Title VII’s ban on workplace sex discrimination protects LGBTQ people from discrimination. ActionLink distributes personalized graphics and center-focused talking points. Our statement about the cases is shared with Los Angeles Mayor Garcetti’s entire staff.

ACTIONLINK’S FOCUS IN 2019: LGBTQ EQUALITY

Health Care Discrimination

Religious Exemption Defense

Transgender Protections

Safeguard Federal Funding

Adoption & Foster Care Rights

Anti-Discrimination Laws

Youth & Older Adult Protections

Get Out The Vote Efforts

ACTIONLINK DISTRIBUTES CENTER-FOCUSED GRAPHICS & TALKING POINTS REGARDING SCOTUS TITLE VII CASES

DECEMBER

The Dept. of Health and Human Services proposes a new rule that would allow programs receiving their grants to discriminate on the basis of sex and gender. ActionLink collects over 2,500 comments opposing the rule within a 15-day time period.
COMMUNITY CENTER OPENS ITS DOORS

PEOPLE OF COLOR  FEBRUARY 26, 2019

COMMUNITY CENTER OPENS ITS DOORS

PEOPLE OF COLOR  FEBRUARY 26, 2019

COMMUNITY CENTER OPENS ITS DOORS

PEOPLE OF COLOR  FEBRUARY 26, 2019
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT

$100,000+
Anonymous (2)

$75,000
HCM Strategies
Johnson Family Foundation
My Brother’s Keeper, Inc

$50,000+
Collingwood Foundation
David Bohnett Foundation
H. van Ameringen Foundation

$25,000+
HG Charitable Foundation
The Louis L. Borick Foundation
Tides Foundation

$10,000+
Amy Mandel & Katina Rodis Fund
Center on Colfax
Johnson & Johnson Family of Companies
Los Angeles LGBT Center
The Palette Fund Inc
Small Change Foundation
Stonewall Library & Archives
Wild Geese Foundation

$5,000+
AIDS Healthcare Foundation
Grindr LLC
Irving R. Weinstein Philanthropic Fund
Aran Maree
Metro Inclusive Health

$1,000+
Anonymous
Christopher Bartlett
Selisse Berry
Robert Boo
Aaron Chang
Center on Halsted
Timothy Chow
Cece Cox

UP TO $999
Karim Abay
Allen Acosta
AmazonSmile Foundation
Kasey Anderson
Anonymous
Richard Auer
Tess Ayers
Barbara Bartlett
Regina Baver
Benefity
Bia Italiano
Restaurant
Human Rights Campaign
Valera Bowman
Luanne Boytan
Dana Levin
Kathleen A. Levine
Jill Mart
Jill McCready
Jill McGuiness
Deborah Levin
Dana Levine
Laurie Litt
Michael Lombardo
Jayzal Patricia
Evon Pham
Frank Ponds
Bridget Polley
Nicole Poston
Sima Roberts
Matthew Riser
Kathleen Roche

$2,500+
AB Foundation
Gamma Mu Foundation
Sarah Anderson
Anonymous
Annie Gaines
Kasey Anderson
Anonymous
Richard Auer
Tess Ayers
David Bailey
Lee Ann Below
Regina Baver
Benefity
Bia Italiano
Restaurant
Human Rights Campaign
Valera Bowman
Luanne Boytan
Dana Levin
Kathleen A. Levine
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Dana Levine
Laurie Litt
Michael Lombardo
Jayzal Patricia
Evon Pham
Frank Ponds
Bridget Polley
Nicole Poston
Sima Roberts
Matthew Riser
Kathleen Roche

$2,000+
McCormack+Kristel
Jeffrey Schneider
Glenda Testone
Lorena Toma
Top Level Design, LLC
Unemployment Services
Modesto Tico Valle
Stacie Walls

$1,000+
AB Foundation
Gamma Mu Foundation
Sarah Anderson
Anonymous
Kasey Anderson
Anonymous
Richard Auer
Tess Ayers
David Bailey
Lee Ann Below
Regina Baver
Benefity
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Kathleen Roche

2018

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2019

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<td>$84,486</td>
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CenterLink ended with a total of 256 member organizations including 42 brand-new members. This is an impressive 17% year over year growth from 2018. (214+109=323 member centers with 32 new member organizations.)