

## PFLAG Madison

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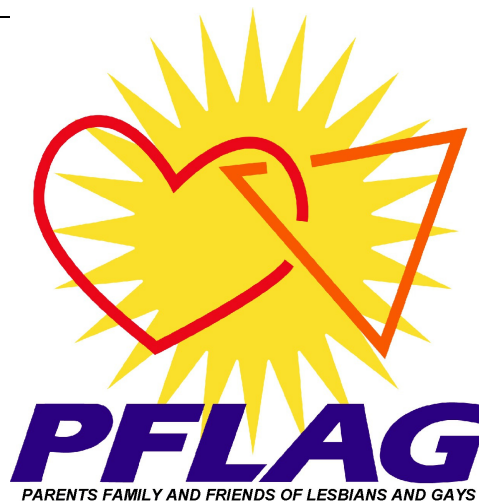
Website: <http://www.pflag-madison.org>

### Meeting Place:

Friends Meeting House, 1704 Roberts Court, Madison, WI

Meeting: 2:00 to 4:00 PM, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, Sept. to May

National PFLAG Website: <http://www.pflag.org>



## Parents, Families, Friends and Allies United with LGBTQ People to move equality forward

### *Support*

### *Education*

### *Advocacy*

President: Lora Schmid-Dolan

President-Elect: Susie Murray

Past President: Jeanne Williams

Treasurer: Susie Murray

Board Members: Joanne Lee, Sandy Feria, Paul Wertsch, Nancy Jones, Ken Jones and Joann Elder

## NEXT MEETING – October 15

Our Lives

### September Meeting Summary - Lora Schmid-Dolan

Our guest speaker for the September PFLAG meeting was Andrea Johnson from American Family Insurance. Ms Johnson is a member of the LGBT + Allies Business Resource Group (BRG) that formed in 2014. At that time American Family had a 55% Corporate Equality Index (CEI) rating from the Human Rights Campaign. A group of employees decided they wanted to achieve a 100% rating and set about doing so. First they had form a BRG. Other necessary steps included developing a non-discrimination/non-harassment policy regarding gender identity and gender expression, donating to LGBTQ philanthropic organizations, providing domestic partner benefits, and participate in a yearly review. In three years American Family Insurance has accomplished its goal of achieving a 100% rating and counts several hundred members in its BRG throughout the organization. The group's focus is educational, stressing the importance of diversity within the workplace, increasing the participation of LGBT members and their allies in Pride month activities, and marketing their 100% CEI rating both in internal documents and external publications.

### Madison PFLAG Membership Reminder

PFLAG memberships run from Oct. 1 - Sept 30th each year. If you have not yet submitted your membership for this upcoming year, please fill out the [membership form](#) and send it along with your dues to Susie Murray, 106 Mary Lou St., Verona, WI, 53593.

### Edith Windsor, who helped end gay marriage ban, dies at 88 - Wikipedia

Edith "Edie" Windsor<sup>[1]</sup> (née Schlain; June 20, 1929 – September 12, 2017) was an American [LGBT rights](#) activist and a technology manager at [IBM](#). She was the lead plaintiff in the [Supreme Court of the United States](#) case [United States v. Windsor](#), which successfully overturned Section 3 of the [Defense of Marriage Act](#) and was considered a landmark legal victory for the [same-sex marriage movement in the United States](#).

See the PFLAG statement on Edie Windsor's passing [here](#).

## **Another Farmer's Market Thank You: Jeanne Williams**

Now that our season has ended, the biggest thank you goes to Joe Elder for transporting the market materials to and from the square every Saturday from May through September. It's important that we maintain this tradition that Kay Heggstad started over 20 years ago. Thank you, Joe, we could not have done it without you!

## **Welcoming Schools Partnership Expanded - Wisconsin State Journal, Oct 2, 2017**

The district has expanded its partnership with Welcoming Schools, a project of the Human Rights Campaign Foundation. This summer the district added a full-time Welcoming Schools coordinator position and the national foundation led a facilitator-training here. As a result, 17 district staff members can now provide ongoing professional development to other colleagues, said Jennifer Herdina, Welcoming Schools coordinator.

See the complete article [here](#).

## **DOJ ends transgender workplace protections - Chicago Tribune, Oct 6, 2017**

WASHINGTON — Federal civil rights law does not protect transgender people from discrimination at work, Attorney General Jeff Sessions said in a memo released Thursday that rescinds guidance issued under the Obama administration. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 bars workplace discrimination between men and women but does not extend to gender identity, Sessions said.

The Justice Department will take that position in "all pending and future matters," the memo said.

See the complete article [here](#).

## **Leaving Madison**

Anne Urbanski reports that they have accepted an offer on their house and will be moving/retiring to Santa Fe NM in November. We thank Anne for her support and service.

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PLEASE NOTE: If you are viewing the printed version of this newsletter, check the on-line version at <http://www.pflag-madison.org/newsletters/2017/Oct17NL.pdf> to easily follow the links that are mentioned in the news items.

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All you need are these:  
certainty of judgment in the present moment;  
action for the common good in the present moment;  
and an attitude of gratitude in the present moment for anything that comes your way.

*Marcus Aurelius (121–180 A.D.)*