

ROD'S HOUSE

P.O. Box 2283
Yakima, WA 98907

June
Newsletter
2021

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12th ANNUAL In Their Shoes CELEBRATION

Mark your calendar because...

*Rod's House annual fundraiser
and celebration is just around
the corner!*

**August 27, 2021
5:30pm**

*One night, six celebrations,
and one cause; Youth Homelessness.*

Visit: qtogo.net/qmlink/rodshouse

**Purchase tickets & register
for the auction!**

RESPECT. EMPOWER. CONNECT.

Staff Voice

Crystal
She/Her/They/Them
Case Manager



What is Pride Month?

Pride used to take the form of rioting, however as rights were gained it became more of a celebration. Pride has become a time for commemorating LGBTQ+ history, gains in marriage equality, and remembrance of the events of the Stonewall riot. Pride allows people to comfortably share sexuality and gender identity in a welcoming accepting space.

Although the LGBTQ+ community has had many accomplishments, there continues to be more work to be done. Senate bill 6443 "The Bathroom Bill" that would have forced transgender people to use public restrooms that do not correspond with their gender identity lost by only a single vote. **350 Transgender people were murdered in 2020, 70 percent of whom were people of color, and hate-based violence towards LGBTQ+ people continues to rise.**

Why does Rods House celebrate Pride Month?

Rod's House believes all young people deserve to feel supported and respected. It is important for Rod's House to participate in Pride month to demonstrate allyship for our young people and continue to show respect for **ALL** young people.

Everyone should be treated with respect and be supported regardless of their race, sexuality, gender identity, and religion.

DIVERSITY: INCLUDES BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO RACE, COLOR, ETHNICITY, NATIONALITY, RELIGION, SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS, VETERAN STATUS, EDUCATION, MARITAL STATUS, LANGUAGE, AGE, GENDER, GENDER EXPRESSION, GENDER IDENTITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, MENTAL OR PHYSICAL ABILITY, GENETICS AND LEARNING STYLES.

At Rod's House, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion are more than words, they are the driving force behind every decision we make as an organization.

Diversity is the co-existence of identities in a given place. Every person that enters the doors of Rod's House, regardless of identity, is treated with the same inherent respect and dignity as the person who walks in after them, and the person who walked in before. Rod's House, like the country and world, is a melting pot of identities and cultures. Each one not only accepted but embraced and celebrated.

Equity recognizes that no two people, or their circumstances, are the same. With that in mind, equity aims to provide all people with the tools they specifically need to succeed. Equity, as a concept, intends to provide all people - regardless of identity or ability - the opportunity to thrive.

Inclusion creates environments conducive to open, supportive and diverse communities. The power it instills in the work environment is collaborative, supportive, and respectful. Where inclusivity resides you'll find comradery, increased participation and contribution amongst groups of people and empowering **ALL** to move forward.

At Rod's House, we celebrate the diversity and individualism of each member of our team, our board of directors, the young adults we serve and our community. We are proud to be an organization that welcomes diversity. We recognize the importance of continually improving and growing our understanding of diversity, equity and inclusion. As such, the **Rod's House Equity Committee** is dedicated to consistent and meaningful work ultimately creating more opportunities for the organization to expand upon our present operations and

strive to always better our practices so that we can continue to be welcoming to **ALL**.



"It is so important that everyone, going through tough times or not, has the right to be treated fairly and equally with no dependency on color, race, religion or gender."
- Steve Bernard, Rod's House Equity Committee Co-Chair & Board Member



Interested in volunteering, donating, or would like more information?



- rodshouse.org
- office@rodshouse.org
- (509) 895-2665