

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

PROCLAMATION NO. 2020-058

Proclaiming June 2020 as Pride Month for the LGBTQ+ Community in Multnomah County, Oregon.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- A. June 2020 marks the 50th anniversary of the first March on Christopher Street one year after the riots at the Stonewall Inn in New York City which started on June 28, 1969. Since June 1970, Pride celebrations have been celebrated each June to commemorate the brave actions of Marsha P. Johnson, Silvia Rivera, and Stormé DeLarverie standing up against state sanctioned oppression against LGBTQ+ people.
- B. BIPOC LGBTQ+ leaders supported a movement that worked tirelessly to organize their communities. Multnomah County's first PRIDE march in 1976 was organized by Black, lesbian activist Kathleen Saadat. In 1992, Lynn Nakamoto founded the Asian Pacific Islander Pride group that spoke out against an anti-LGBTQ+ ballot that ultimately failed to pass. David Martinez co-founded Portland Latino Gay Pride and was involved in many organizational efforts to provide support for the BIPOC LGBTQ+ community.
- C. The BIPOC and the LGBTQ+ community intersect and experience bias and discrimination on all levels. Racism, transphobia, and homophobia generate physical harm, verbal harm, and disproportionate economic and health outcomes for the BIPOC and LGBTQ+ communities due barriers to essential resources and services. It is part of our past and present. To move equity forward, we must condemn racism, transphobia, and homophobia by speaking up about it and recognize these communities are a large portion of the people we serve. Silence only continues to perpetuate these harms.
- D. Multnomah County acknowledges and affirms commitment to addressing health disparities within the community. Currently, transgender community members with ACA insurance may be denied necessary care. There is still rampant transphobia and homophobia within healthcare institutions despite legal protections provided by state and local law. The County's ongoing work and commitment to prevent and remedy these disparities is essential to continue fighting institutional bias.
- E. While the LGBTQ+ and BIPOC communities continue to face multiple barriers to our livelihoods, we continue to engage in the Multnomah County community as a whole. We remain resilient. We created a culture that has a deep impact in Multnomah County by creating a more equitable place to live because of our resilience and continued efforts.

- F. Multnomah County has been the site of PRIDE celebrations each third weekend in June since 1976, with Multnomah County government supporting PRIDE Month celebrations since 1992.
- G. Multnomah County's Office of Diversity and Equity sponsors PRISM and QTPOC, two Employee Resource Groups that serve over 200 LGBTQ+ employees and ally members who contribute to the ongoing mission of inclusion and equity in Multnomah County.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

June 2020 as PRIDE Month for the LGBTQ+ Community in Multnomah County, Oregon and with this proclamation affirms commitment to supporting LGBTQ+ rights, inclusion, and the dream of lived equality for all regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

ADOPTED this 25th day of June, 2020.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Deborah Kafoury, Chair

REVIEWED:
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By: Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY: QTPOC, Prism, & the Office's of Commissioner Susheela Jayapal and Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson.