

## The close of one chapter...

By Renata Moreira, Executive Director

It has been an honor to serve Our Family Coalition's diverse communities, and to do so alongside countless passionate changemakers like you. While it wasn't easy leading the organization during these exceptional political times, it has given me the opportunity to see what we're made of. I transition out of OFC inspired by our community's resilience and our deep commitment to volunteer time, talent, and resources to fight for the most vulnerable among us. I also leave more aware of the challenges before us—confident that with eyes and hearts open, we will be up to the task.

I could not leave without inviting you to tackle a major challenge that plagues the non-profit sector: the lack of support for Black, Indigenous, and women of color leaders. My passion for our intersectional work is deeply informed by my personal and professional experiences as a working class, immigrant, Latinx queer mama—but these identities did limit my impact as ED. As you know, the structures of power that we seek to change, in order to support LGBTQ folks and our families in all our diversity, are at work not just outside but also inside the organizations, institutions, and communities in which we work and live.

Important research on this topic provides eye-opening findings. I encourage you to check out *The Race to Lead* report by the Building Movement Project, and the *Talent Justice* report by Fund the People. You may be surprised to discover, for instance, that fewer than 10% of nonprofit leaders are people of color, and that we continue leaving the sector at alarming rates. Underlying reasons are not that we're disinterested in leading or are ill-prepared, but rather that both blatant and unconscious biases prevent us from thriving as leaders. I invite our whole community to consider that in order to retain leadership of color in the non-profit sector, we must address the practices and biases governing our organizations and the systems that uphold them, every bit as much as we work to improve our individual intersectional lenses on racial, gender, and economic justice.

And at the same time, we also must ensure that the balance we seek socially and politically does not come at the cost of our personal or individual balance. As I turn to restoring my own internal and family balance, I feel confident that in Sam Ames, OFC will have an Interim Executive Director who will approach these and all our challenges with a fierce commitment to equity.

(continued on page 3)



## ...is the opening of another.


By Steve Disselhorst, Board Co-Chair

The board of directors, staff, and community are incredibly grateful for Renata's inspirational leadership and dedication as Executive Director of OFC over the past three years. And we're incredibly excited to welcome Sam Ames, Esq., as Interim Executive Director. Our shared vision for the next phase of our journey as an organization honors our established role in the community, but also entails some change and transformation around how we operate and serve our LGBTQ family community.

We remain committed to the current components of our mission to provide advocacy, education, and support for LGBTQ families with children. We will continue our advocacy work through partnerships with other organizations to advance policies favorable to LGBTQ families with children across the state. We will continue to work with our current funders on both sides of the Bay to maintain our current level of support programming for which we continue to see much demand.

In the next chapter of the organization, we see OFC's leadership role in California's inclusive education expanding through fee-for-service trainings across the state. LGBTQ families and communities of difference benefit materially from more equitable education, and we see these trainings as long-lasting direct service.

As always, we will look at partnerships with for-profit, non-profit, and government entities with whom we can advance the safety, protection, and well-being of our families.

We are excited about the next phase of OFC's journey, and invite you to travel together with us with your continued support and partnership. 



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# Farewell Yusni, hello (again) Jeannette

By Yusni Bakar

Leading OFC's Family Support Programs has been inspiring, to say the least. I'm inspired that hundreds of LGBTQ families who participated in our programs were able to find a support system and build community while raising their families.

During the past year, we have offered 118 playgroups, 23 community-building events, and 87 parent education workshops to over 3800 Bay Area LGBTQ family members and their allies. Our LGBTQ Family Garden at Oakland Pride hosted a record-breaking 1,400 attendees in 2018. We were proud to launch the Queer/Trans Parents of Color Support Group in SF, and expand our early childhood and development support to include Infant Massage Classes. Finally, in 2017, we offered the first-ever kids and family area at the Trans March during SF Pride weekend, now the go-to annual gathering for our trans families and caregivers, and we couldn't be more thrilled.

We continue our strong commitment to use our decades' old resources and relationships to serve our communities most exposed to violence, isolation and displacement. None of us are truly resilient until we all are.

I am proud to pass the torch to one of our own, Jeannette Page. Jeannette is passionate about helping families, and has limitless energy and great ideas. I could not be more impressed with all that we've built together. In the coming months, Jeannette will oversee both SF Programs and general program coordination for the East Bay as we review and re-staff Programs leadership. Jeannette's team will continue to co-create programming that centers inclusion and creativity, enabling OFC to continue to provide lifelines, support, and community-building to LGBTQ families at a time when it couldn't be of greater value. 🌈



## The close of one ...

(continued from page 1)

It won't be easy: funding for nonprofits has been as paradoxical as these political times. National economic stressors have impacted and shifted priorities for communities and for funders. So while OFC's mission and the need for our work has not changed—in many ways it has intensified—where and how we find financial support has changed. Political savvy, organizational know-how, and emotional intelligence must guide our beloved organization through its next chapter. And Sam Ames brings the perfect combination of all three.

As OFC enters its next chapters, I truly hope that you—community member, supporter, friend—will redouble your commitment. It is during times of transition that organizations most need the support of their core community. I know I will continue supporting Our Family Coalition: as a donor, an engaged community member, an advisor, and a friend. I am deeply honored to have been a part of this organization, with all of you: thank you all for your inspiration, vision, and support. And welcome to Our Family, Sam. 🌈



Our Family Coalition advances equity for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) families with children through support, education, and advocacy.

### MAIN OFFICE

1385 Mission St., Ste. 340  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
415-981-1960

### EAST BAY OFFICE

970 Grace Ave.  
Oakland, CA 94608

[www.ourfamily.org](http://www.ourfamily.org)

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SUN  
July TBD  
3–6pm

## Trans Family Pool Party

SAVA POOL, 2695 19TH AVE., SAN FRANCISCO

Enjoy some splashy summer fun with OFC! Trans, non-binary and gender non-conforming parents and kids can dive in and have the pool all to ourselves, surrounded by friendly, supportive community. Allies welcome!

SF

THU  
Aug 1, 8, 15,  
22, 29  
Sep 5, 12, 19,  
26  
6–8pm

## Group Triple P

OUR FAMILY COALITION OFFICE, 1385 MISSION ST., STE 340, SAN FRANCISCO

OFC staffers will guide LGBTQ parents and caregivers through the 12-week Positive Parenting Program. Triple P is designed to promote positive parenting practices in the community, prevent a range of social and behavioral problems in children, and aims to support parents to promote their child's social, emotional, and behavioral development. For parents and caregivers with children 2–10 years old.

SF

FRI-SUN  
Aug  
TBD

## QTPOC Family Nature Retreat

POINT BONITA YMCA, 981 FORT BARRY, SAUSALITO

At this weekend retreat at the Point Bonita YMCA in the Marin headlands, queer and trans parents of color and their families will enjoy hiking, campfires, games, and more! All meals and lodging provided. Space is limited: register all family attendees soon!

SUN  
Sep 8  
10:30am–  
4pm

## OAKLAND LGBTQ PRIDE FESTIVAL FAMILY GARDEN

PARADE: BROADWAY & 14TH • GARDEN: FRANKLIN & 21ST

After marching as a family contingent—check our website closer to the date for stopoff details—join us at our biggest annual event, the oasis of LGBTQ family fun held inside the Oakland LGBTQ Pride Festival, in the Kaiser parking lot at Franklin and 14th.

EB

Sep  
TBD  
5:30–8pm

## Queer-Friendly Child Care Fair

TBD

Finding the right child care for your family can be a daunting task. At OFC's inaugural Queer-Friendly Child Care Fair, come meet nannies, babysitters, daycare providers, and child care centers in the Bay Area interested in serving LGBTQ+ families. Learn what questions to ask about how they are being inclusive and what efforts they are making to ensure that your family is well cared for.

SF

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# East Bay events: Summer hiatus, fall reboot

**W**hat a ride! In late spring, we learned much to our surprise that our longtime funding for East Bay programs would not be renewed. And then in the nick of time, funding was restored. Wheew!

Programming in the East Bay will be on a summer hiatus for July and August as we regroup. But we'll return with our Oakland LGBTQ Pride Festival Family Garden on Sunday, September 8th.

## Stay connected this summer!

[ourfamily.org/eastbay](http://ourfamily.org/eastbay)

Some ideas of places to meet up with other families for DIY pop-up playdates.

### Google Group: OFC-East Bay LGBTQ Families

Kick it old school with a low-tech listserv/web forum! OFC-East Bay LGBTQ Families: share insights, resources, playdate logistics, and more. To join, visit [tinyurl.com/OFC-EastBayLGBTQFamGoogleGroup](http://tinyurl.com/OFC-EastBayLGBTQFamGoogleGroup)

For more info, write [programs@ourfamily.org](mailto:programs@ourfamily.org).

## SUPPORT GROUPS

### TUESDAYS

July 9  
Sep 10  
6-8pm

#### Monthly QTPOC Parents Support Group

OUR FAMILY COALITION OFFICE, 1385 MISSION ST., STE 340, SAN FRANCISCO

Navigating the world as a queer person of color and parent can be complex; finding a safe space to connect and build community with each other can be a challenge. Join OFC's monthly support group for queer and trans parents of color in San Francisco where you can be your whole self and talk about what matters to you. Dinner and child care provided free with advance registration.

SF

### TUESDAYS

July 23  
Aug 27  
Sep 24  
6-8pm

#### Drop-In Support for LGBTQ+ Parents

OUR FAMILY COALITION OFFICE, 1385 MISSION ST., STE 340, SAN FRANCISCO

Enjoy a meal with your kids and other LGBTQ+ families, then parents and caregivers break off for facilitated discussions with their peers about family and child-rearing issues. Dinner and childcare provided with advance registration.

SF

### WEDNESDAYS

July 10, 17, 24, 31  
Aug 7, 14, 21, 28  
6-8pm

#### NEW! Prospective & Expectant Parents Group

OUR FAMILY COALITION OFFICE, 1385 MISSION ST., STE 340, SAN FRANCISCO

Are you ready to start a family, but aren't sure where to begin? Or is a child on the way and you want to connect with other queer and trans expectant families? Whether you're trying to conceive, using surrogacy or adoption, get the information and support you need at OFC's 8-week peer support group for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and queer prospective and expectant parents! Group meets on Wednesday evenings from 6-8pm in San Francisco from July 10th through August 28th. Free dinner and child care provided.

SF

## PLAYGROUPS

### MONDAYS

July 8, 15, 22, 29  
Aug 5, 12, 19, 26  
Sep 16, 23, 30  
3-4pm

#### Baby & Me (0-18 months)

COMMUNITY WELL, 78 OCEAN AVE., SAN FRANCISCO

Want more quality time with your little one? Join OFC's weekly group for LGBTQ+ parents and caregivers with infants 0-18 months. This parent-child interactive helps support child bonding, health, and increase your know-how about your infant's cognitive, physical, and language development!

SF

### FRIDAYS

July 12, 19, 26,  
Aug 2, 9, 16  
9-10:30am

#### Toddle with Me: Summer Series (1-4 years)

RECESS COLLECTIVE, 2226 TARAVAL ST., SAN FRANCISCO

This fun, interactive 6-week series for LGBTQ parents with kids 1-4 yrs promotes kids' overall development. Using creative physical expression, this class promotes gross and fine motor skill development, coordination and balance, as well as early literacy, pre-math, and social-emotional skills.

SF

Free childcare and food are provided at all events, with advance registration.  
For further information and event registration, visit [www.ourfamily.org](http://www.ourfamily.org).

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Day Tours begin October 1st • 8:15-10:00AM

Windows & Mirrors Reception • November 19th • 6:00PM

Intimate Gathering Reception • December 3rd • 6:00PM

Please register online.

We hope you'll get to know our inclusive community!  
Our families and faculty look forward to meeting you.

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educational content. Drop  
by and visit! Then teach  
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thing or two.



**To inquire about a teacher training at your school, contact [education@ourfamily.org](mailto:education@ourfamily.org).**