

### The Campaign for The Chad Robert Phillips Memorial Fund

# CLAY TEDESCHI MAKES MAJOR INVESTMENT IN PPF'S FUTURE

Clay Tedeschi, a Santa Barbara philanthropist and longtime PPF supporter, has pledged \$250,000 to seed a permanent fund within PPF's endowment. Once the fund reaches \$500,000 in assets, annual earnings will support our youth programs and counseling services for youth and anyone affected by adverse childhood experiences.

Clay was moved to establish the fund after his friend Chad Phillips tragically lost his life in 2020 at the age of 37. A Santa Barbara resident, Chad was a creative, fun-loving, beautiful young man with devoted family and friends. Like many members of the LGBTQ+ community, Chad also was plagued by demons and drank to numb his pain.



Chad Roberts Phillips pictured above

To honor Chad's life and to ensure other young LGBTQ+ people struggling with mental health and addiction issues get the care they need to overcome childhood trauma and thrive, Clay created The Chad Robert Phillips Memorial Fund.

Pacific Pride Foundation is seeking gifts and pledges to reach our \$500,000 goal.

## Santa Barbara County's Leading Resource for LGBTQ+ Community

Pacific Pride Foundation is the leading LGBTQ+ center between Los Angeles and San Francisco, serving more than 10,000 people each year throughout all of Santa Barbara County.

Headquartered in Santa Barbara, we partner with 35 educational and nonprofit agencies to provide a dynamic range of health, prevention and social service programs, including programs for LGBTQ+ youth and older adults, counseling services, opioid response services, sensitivity and competency trainings, community events, and advocacy on LGBTQ+ issues.

Since our founding 45 years ago as a Drug and Alcohol Abuse Counseling and Referral center for Gay men and Lesbians, PPF has become a strong, respected leader for people living with HIV/AIDS and the LGBTQ+ community, providing high-quality, compassionate programs and services not available through any other organization in the county. For example:

- PPF directly prevents the transmission of disease through its HIV/AIDS and HEP-C testing and prevention outreach and education, delivering 1,300 free and anonymous tests annually.
- PPF is the leader in in-school and after-school programs for LGBTQ+ youth, serving 200 kids with mental health, suicide prevention, and antibullying programs, while providing them with a safe place for social connection and leadership development.
- PPF is addressing the opioid crisis through the only syringe exchange program in the county, which collects nearly a quarter of a million used syringes every year, and by distributing the overdose-reversing drug, Narcan, which resulted in 249 known reversals of potentially fatal overdoses in the past year.



#### **MISSION**

Pacific Pride Foundation's advocacy and education efforts meet the ongoing and emerging needs of a diverse population in order to create a thriving and visible LGBTQ+ community and prevent the transmission of HIV/AIDS.

#### VISION

Pacific Pride Foundation is part of a global movement to witness a thriving, inclusive, and diverse LGBTQ+ community and an end to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.



#### **Sustainability Is Paramount**

The COVID-19 pandemic brought a level of fear and isolation that many people had never experienced. But for the LGBTQ+ and HIV-impacted communities, it brought crushing reminders of an earlier global pandemic when AIDS took too many loved ones too early. In the wake of both pandemics, LGBTQ+ people have struggled disproportionately with mental health and addiction.

The COVID-19 pandemic not only intensified the importance of our services for the LGBTQ+ community; it highlighted the urgency to accelerate our organizational sustainability efforts. With new staff leadership at the helm, we envision:

- expanding our vital counseling programs to meet the diverse and changing needs of our community, and,
- 2. building a comprehensive development program that will diversify our funding sources and fortify our ability to withstand the financial impact of future extraordinary events like a global pandemic.

The Chad Robert Phillips Memorial Fund kickstarts these efforts.



Many of us remember feeling alone and lost as a teen or young adult, or having friends who struggled to fit in and feel accepted. With more funds, PPF can reach more LGBTQ+ youth through our "no wrong door" approach:

- Our PROUD Peer Support Youth Groups, PROUD Prom, and Youth Advocate Leadership Program help LGBTQ+ youth ages 12-18 feel more connected to others and empowered to advocate for the community.
- Our School Leadership Development Program empowers LGBTQ+ students and their allies as they develop anti-bullying campaigns and lead student-centric activities on middle school and high school campuses throughout Santa Barbara County.
- Our Counseling Program provides culturally competent mental health services for youth and their families. We are the only provider of LGBTQ+ specific counseling and offer the only intern training program specializing in LGBTQ+ and HIV-impacted populations in Santa Barbara County. We plan to double this program in the coming year.

With your help we can reach more people in need, especially our youth. Please give to our *Chad Robert Phillips Memorial Fund* Campaign today.