



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pacific Pride Foundation

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Pacific Pride Foundation Receives \$10,000 Grant from Fund for Santa Barbara To Strengthen Social Justice Programming

SANTA BARBARA, CA - As part of their commitment to advancing progressive change by strengthening Economic, Environmental, Political, Racial, and Social Justice movements; The Fund for Santa Barbara (The FUND) has awarded Pacific Pride Foundation (PPF) with a Grant of \$10,000. The FUND (est. 1980) is a non-traditional community foundation that supports organizations and groups working for progressive social change in Santa Barbara County. "Pacific Pride Foundation is thrilled to be partnering with the FUND in our continued efforts to advocate for rights, visibility, and wellness for LGBTQ+ and HIV-impacted communities in Santa Barbara County," said PPF's Executive Director Kristin Flickinger. "The history of the LGBTQ+ movement is one of community action and advocacy, from Stonewall to ACT UP, and beyond."

The FUND is dedicated to helping find solutions to current and emerging social problems and issues that challenge our society as a whole. They understand that social conditions improve most dramatically when those who have been denied power and justice lead on their behalf to confront, challenge and change the conditions that have denied them access to justice and equity.

The FUND's generous grant will help PPF continue its commitment to the LGBTQ+ community in Santa Barbara County and beyond. The \$10,000 grant will directly support PPF's advocacy for rights, visibility, and wellness for LGBTQ+ and HIV-impacted communities in Santa Barbara County. This grant will support staff and supply costs for various social change initiatives in 2022, such as

anti-racism/social justice training for staff and board, monthly Rainbow Roundtables (which bring together LGBTQ+ peer-led affinity groups in Santa Barbara County in dialogue and collaborative advocacy), and the Pacific Pride Festival.

With bold new leadership in place, PPF is working to even more intentionally embed community organizing into everything they do. They are focusing on social justice advocacy within PPF's internal structures, within cross-sector collaborations, and at a community-wide level. Through this work, PPF is actively fighting against discrimination, improving the rights of LGBTQ+ and HIV-impacted communities, and supporting their constituents to engage in dialogue and action to create social change within Santa Barbara County.

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Pacific Pride Foundation (PPF) 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, it partners 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.

PPF directly prevents the transmission of disease through its HIV/AIDS and HEP-C testing and prevention outreach and education, delivering 1300 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 anti-bullying 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.

For more information or to make a donation please visit pacificpridefoundation.org.