



WE SERVE REGARDLESS

NORTHWEST VICTIM SERVICES

CELEBRATING

PRIDE MONTH



2026 June Newsletter

A Piece of My Heart



My daughter told me on her prom day “Mom, this will be the last time I wear a dress.” After that day my son MJ was born and I accepted him for the man he became. I never once second guessed the decision nor did I try to talk him out of what he knew was his destiny. MJ and his sister made my heart whole and now I have a hole in my heart that will never be replaced.

On my son’s birthday, December 12, 2022, he went missing and I found my son on December 14, 2022 laying in someone’s backyard badly beaten. I went looking for my son the moment I found out he was missing and I was NOT going to stop searching until I found him. My son, murdered, a well known transgender activist in the city of Philadelphia.

MJ was born and raised in South Carolina. Immediately prior to his death, he lived in the Germantown section of Philadelphia. He was heavily involved in transgender activism, which included supporting the William Way LGBTQIA+ Community Center and the Transgender Legal Defense Fund among other causes. He was a vivacious person and always the “life of the party,” friends said. 2026 Philadelphia Gay News <https://epgn.com/2023/08/10/alleged-murderer-of-philly-trans-man-held-for-trial/>

Message from MOM: Please be careful of the company

YOU keep. Everyone is NOT your friend!

- A Grieving Mother. Tara



Tara, Mom

SERVING WITHOUT JUDGEMENT



Services are available from Northwest Victim Services (NVS) regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. We serve all of the affected by crime with dignity, respect, and love.

The Northwest Victim Services Advocates including the Executive Director works very closely with Kelly Burkhardt, Philadelphia District Attorney's Office, LGBTQ+ Liaison, Victim Witness Coordinator.

NVS, understands that LGBTQIA+ services are critically important within our agency because those within the LGBTQIA+ community often experience victimization at disproportionately high rates while also facing barriers when seeking resources.

Those within the LGBTQIA+ community experience elevated rates of domestic violence, sexual assault, hate crimes, stalking, homelessness-related victimizations, and family rejection. Transgender individuals, especially transgender women of color, face particularly high risks.

Kelly plays a vital role in ensuring the Northwest Victim Services advocates provide culturally competent services, and she helps us understand services are most effective when people feel seen and respected.



From left to right, Melany Nelson, Kelly Burkhardt, and Tara Jackson (Mom of MJ)

Support for LGBTQIA+ Youth

The Trevor Project: 1-866-488-7386; Text START to 678-678

Suicide prevention and crisis intervention organization for LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning) young people.

Trans Lifeline: 1-877-565-8860

Connects trans people to the community, support, and resources they need to survive and thrive.

Attic Youth Center: 215-545-4331; info@atticyouthcenter.org

Provide LGBTQ+ youth with the support and skills needed to transition into independent, thriving adults.

GALAEI: 215-398-5003; www.galaeiqtbipoc.org

Serves Philadelphia's queer and trans community of color.

LGBTQIA+ Philly School District: www.philasd.org/studentrights/lgbtqia/

Celebrates the experiences and affirms the identities of LGBTQIA+ students, staff, parents, and family members.

Restorative Connection Therapists:

www.restorativeconnection.com/resources.html

Trauma-informed, somatic therapy for people who are queer, transgender, non-binary, LGBTQIA, and/or survivors of trauma or systemic oppression.

Valley Youth House: Runaway Hotline: 610-691-1200

Helps homeless youth find housing and provides one-on-one mentorship to foster and non-foster youth.

Philly HopeLine: 1-833-745-4673 or 1-833-PHL-HOPE;

www.UpliftPhilly.org/philly-hopeline

Free & private helpline answered by clinicians from Uplift Center - with specific Queer & Trans Youth hours - for callers grieving the death of someone close to them, seeking emotional support or resources, and signing up for grief support groups at

Uplift Center for Grieving Children; www.UpliftPhilly.org.



*Resources for
LGBTQIA+ Youth
in the School District
of Philadelphia*

PASH

Promoting Adolescent
Student Health

PRIDE

Confidential Support is Available

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

988 or 988 Lifeline.org

LGBTQI+ Youth Press 3 | Text "PRIDE"

FindSupport.gov

SAMHSA's National Helpline

1-800-662-HELP (4357)

Disaster Distress Helpline

1-800-985-5990

FindTreatment.gov

Veterans Crisis Line

Dial 988 (Press 1)

MONTH

Celebrating #PRIDEMONTH

SAMHSA

LGBTQ+

Suicide Prevention Resources



National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

1-800-273-TALK (8255)
Veterans: Press 1



Text TALK to 741741

Text with a trained counselor from the Crisis Text Line for free, 24/7



The Trevor Project

TrevorLifeline: Available 24/7 at 1-866-488-7386

TrevorText: Text TREVOR to 1-202-304-1200

TrevorChat: Via thetrevorproject.org



Trans Lifeline

Support for transgender people, by transgender people
1-877-565-8860



SAGE LGBT Elder Hotline

Peer-support and local resources for older adults
1-888-234-SAGE



The LGBT National Hotline

Peer-support and local resources for all ages
1-888-843-4564

afsp.org/lgbtq



American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

LGBTQIA+ Crisis Support & Mental Health Hotlines

For individuals in crisis, struggling with mental health, or seeking affirming support

The Trevor Project (Ages 13–24)

Crisis support for LGBTQ+ youth
☎ 1-866-488-7386
✉ Text "START" to 678-678
🌐 www.thetrevorproject.org
Available 24/7 via phone, text, & online chat

Trans Lifeline

(Trans & Nonbinary Support)

Peer-led support from trained trans counselors
☎ 1-877-565-8860
🌐 www.translifeline.org
Confidential support that will not call emergency services without consent
Available 24/7 in the U.S. and Canada

LGBT National Help Center

Peer support & resources for all ages
Youth Talkline: 1-800-246-7743
National Hotline: 1-888-843-4564
Senior Hotline: 1-888-234-7243
🌐 www.lgbthotline.org
Chat & email support available

SAGE LGBT Elder Hotline (Age 50+)

Support for LGBTQ+ older adults
☎ 1-877-360-LGBT (5428)
🌐 www.sageusa.org
Support in English and Spanish, 24/7

Crisis Text Line

Free, 24/7 text-based emotional support
Text "Q" to 741741
🌐 www.crisistextline.org
LGBTQ-affirming counselors available

Mental Health America (MHA)

Directory of LGBTQ+ mental health resources
🌐 www.mhanational.org/issues/lgbtq-communities-and-mental-health
Find affirming care and support networks near you

StrongHearts Native Helpline

Support for Native/Two-Spirit individuals experiencing abuse
☎ 1-844-762-8483
🌐 www.strongheartshelpline.org
Culturally responsive and LGBTQ+ inclusive

Q Chat Space (Teens 13–19)

Live chat-based support groups
🌐 www.qchatspace.org
Facilitated by trained staff
(Not a crisis line, but a great source of peer support)

✔ You are not alone.

Support is available—anytime, anywhere. Please reach out.



RUE LANDAU

COUNCILMEMBER AT-LARGE

LGBTQ+

Resource Fair

Connect with providers who can help with:

- Utility Services
- Senior Services
- Legal Services
- Housing Services
- Youth Services
- LGBTQ+ Services

Engage in real-time discussions with experts from various fields who can assist you.

For more information, email barbara.kigozi@phila.gov

Saturday, June 6, 2026

12 PM - 3 PM

**William Way Community Center
@ Church of St. Luke & the Epiphany**

**330 S 13th St,
Philadelphia, PA 19107**

**RSVP at
bit.ly/CMRLResourcefair**



The Church of
Saint Luke &
The Epiphany



**ASYLUM
PRIDE
HOUSE**



peco
AN EXELON COMPA

LAMP

Library of
Accessible Media
for Pennsylvanians



JFCS

Do
Good,
Well.

38 YEARS OF SERVICE. ONE COMMUNITY ONE MOVEMENT

JOIN US FOR OUR VIRTUAL FUNDRAISER:
MEANS FOR THE MOVEMENT

OCTOBER 27, 2026

SUGGESTED DONATION: \$38 (FOR 38 YEARS OF SERVICE)

NVS WAS THE FIRST COMMUNITY-BASED
AGENCY IN PHILADELPHIA CREATED
AND DEDICATED TO HELPING THOSE
AFFECTED BY CRIME.
CATHERINE BACHRACH,
FOUNDER

North Central
Victim Services

Center City
Victim Services

West/Southwest
Victim Services

Northeast
Victim Services

East Division
Victim Services

South Philadelphia
Victim Services

Northwest
Victim Services



DONATE \$38 AND JOIN THE MOVEMENT!

Northwest Victim Services

6023 Germantown Avenue

Philadelphia, Pa 19144

215.438.4410

Northwestvictimservices.org

