



## A Snapshot of PFLAG Chapters

### Chapter Members

- Mostly parents
- Sexual Orientation
  - 60% straight
  - 40% gay, lesbian or bisexual
- Average age
  - Between 46-55
- Race/ Ethnicity
  - Primarily Caucasian (86%)
  - Primarily African-American (5%)
  - Primarily Hispanic/Latino (8%)

### Chapter Leaders

- Mostly parents
- Sexual Orientation
  - Straight-90%
- Average age
  - Between 56-65
- Race/ Ethnicity
  - Primarily Caucasian (97%)
- Length of Leadership
  - More than 10 years (34%)
  - 7-10 years (25%)
  - 4-6 years (12%)
- Comfortable communicating on the internet (98%).

### Our Chapters

- A slight majority of chapters (53%) are in Urban (50,000 or more) areas with 33% and 14% in suburban (2,500- 49,999) and 14% rural (less than 2,500) regions respectively.
- The average number of attendees at monthly meetings is thirteen (13).
- Most chapters (80%) meet in a church or community building (12%).
- Chapters regularly offer support groups (63%); Programs (32%) or Advocacy Training (6%).
- 85% of chapters participate in Legislative Advocacy

### National PFLAG Leadership

- The majority of chapters (88%) agree that PFLAG NATIONAL is moving the organization in the right direction.
- Nearly three quarters (71%) have a positive relationship with National while 83% have received positive assistance from the Regional Director, State Coordinator or National Office during the past year.

PFLAG National should  
direct its energies toward:

- 1) EDUCATION
- 2) ADVOCACY
- 3) SUPPORT

*(listed in rank order)*

## Major Findings: Chapter Needs

### 1. Improved Communication

- More discussion about the functions of state leaders and board and the relationship to chapters (i.e.) only 46% of chapters understand the roles and responsibilities of Board of Directors.
- Updates and regular assessment of National and chapter accomplishments
- Be increasingly visible. Take advantage of new media and new ways to reach out
- The national PFLAG organization exists but it is not a critical factor in the success of the local chapters.
- In an infrastructure such as PFLAG national has built so well, the concerns of local chapters should rank as highly as our national direction/goals.

Our PFLAG chapter has been the lone voice for LGBT rights in our community

### 2. Chapter Development

- Support for new chapters such as waiving start up fees or providing literature.
- Training for current chapters in such areas as group facilitation, active membership development and sustainable infrastructure.
- Concerns about chapter inertia and lack of new chapter leadership were contrasted with the amount of interest in chapter activities. Many leaders have been bearing the responsibility for many years.
- Cultivation of networking opportunities by local chapters with the power of national behind to make firm ties within this civil rights movement.
- Increase outreach to diverse groups (especially African-Americans, Latinos, Bisexuals).
- Programs in certifying, rewarding, encouraging, and empowering advocates.

PFLAG is about keeping families together.

### Chapter Leader Dedication: Why we stay

- We keep going because a PFLAG presence is so important
- PFLAG saved my life and gave me a voice & am committed to always be available to help others through their journey of acceptance
- PFLAG is the bridge between the gay and straight community and thereby has an important role to play in educating the community at large and supporting the GLBTQ community, in addition to advocating effectively for social change.
- I love the people. I enjoy the courageous stories everyone has to tell and how our lives are always developing and changing.
- PFLAG is the best organization positioned to win the hearts and minds of ordinary Americans. because we are about families and keeping families together.

I have never been a part of an organization that is simply all about love. It is wonderful.