

PFLAG's SPOT

F1; 10:30 - 11:45; F2; 1:15 - 2:30; F3; 2:45 - 4:00 Parents, Guardians and Family Members
S1; 10:30 - 11:45; S2; 1:15 - 2:30; S3; 2:45 - 4:00

This is a support group session for parents, guardians and family members of transgender youth. Whether your loved one has recently come out or has been out as transgender, this is the place to come and meet with those in a similar circumstance and receive or provide support. There will be a facilitator from PFLAG Hartford who will help guide the discussion and provide resources to assist in understanding and supporting our transgender loved ones. *Laura Williams*

You're WHAT? A mother's journey from confusion to celebration.

F2; 1:15 - 2:30 Parents, Guardians and Family Members

Judy grew up with an open mind, but her eyes were not fully open. She had so much to learn after her son came out as transgender. Today she will tell her story, relate what she has seen, and encourage questions about what all of this IS. *Judy Downing Emerson Mason Cheney Emerson Cheney*

Ask A Real Live Trans Adult: Adult Edition

F3; 2:45 - 4:00 Parents, Guardians and Family Members

Ask a panel of trans and gender non-conforming adults your burning questions. We hope to cover topics ranging from how to support transitioning children and adults in schools, workplaces, and beyond to whether humans will travel to Mars in any of our lifetimes. *Keene Morrow*

Taken By Surprise

F3; 2:45 - 4:00 Parents, Guardians and Family Members

Parents are often surprised when a teenager or young adult comes out as transgender. This is especially true when the youth presented as a gender conforming child and never spoke about feeling different. Parents of transgender and non-binary teens and young adults benefit from opportunities to talk with other parents who are experiencing the same challenges. This workshop is an opportunity for parents to discuss their feelings and support each other. It is facilitated by a mental health clinician who has worked extensively with transgender teens and their parents. *Irwin Krieger*

My kid IS Beautiful Dammit!

S1; 10:30 - 11:45 Parents, Guardians and Family Members

A guided discussion to help parents overcome their hesitations to their LGBTQIA child's choices *Barbara Curry*

Parents Facing Tensions Raising GBLTQ Teens

S1; 10:30 - 11:45 Parents, Guardians and Family Members

Mary Collins and her trans son Donald, authors of "At the Broken Places: A Mother and Trans Son Pick Up the Pieces" (Beacon) will discuss how their differences over Donald's transition upended their family life and the strategies they used to reconcile, despite their differences. *Mary Collins Donald Collins*

Moving beyond opposing viewpoints: What to do when families disagree

S3; 2:45 - 4:00

Parents, Guardians and Family Members

Navigating a child's gender transition is uncharted territory for most families. Despite increasing trans visibility, few know transgender people within the circles of their day-to-day their lives and many parents and grandparents came of age when gender identity and biological sex were assumed synonymous. When families cannot resolve their differences, the impact can be disastrous for transgender and gender diverse youth. Drawing on several case studies and group discussion, this workshop explores strategies that can enable families to find a way through their conflict and reach a consensus that communicates acceptance and support for their children. *Elijah Nealy*