

# MEET LCCL

#### **Our History**

Founded in 2021, Lancaster County Chooses Love began as a grassroots movement after a Lititz resident reported multiple acts of vandalism against her pride flag. What started as a call to openly embrace love quickly grew into a mutual aid organization, inspiring our first-ever Pride event.



Since then, we have expanded into a trans-led 501(c)3 organization, committed to advocating for LGBTQ+ individuals across Lancaster County.

#### **Our Mission**

We create safe spaces, connect community members with vital resources, and provide direct services to meet the community's growing needs. Our annual Pride Festival in Lititz remains a celebration of our origins and the community's unwavering support.



Serving Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

104-106 E Main St Lititz, PA 17543

# NEW NAME SAME HEART



When we first began, our work was deeply rooted in the Lititz community, where we found unwavering support and a shared commitment to creating safe spaces.

However, as our impact grew, it became clear that the need for LGBTQ+ advocacy, resources, and support extended far beyond Lititz- reaching across all of Lancaster County.

To better reflect our broader mission and ensure that every LGBTQ+ individual in need knows they can turn to us, we changed our name to Lancaster County Chooses Love. While our name has evolved, our dedication to Lititz remains strong. This community has been the foundation of our work, and we are proud to continue serving and uplifting those who have been with us from the start.

At our core, we have always been here for all of Lancaster County. Now, our name fully represents that mission.





# OUR RESOURCE CENTER



#### **New Location!**

At our Resource Center, you'll find our:

- Food pantry
- Gender-affirming clothing closet
- Library with books focused on social justice issues



We began our Resource Center at St. Paul Penryn Church in 2022. By November 2024, we were serving an **average of 2000 clients each month** at our food pantry. We outgrew our space and knew it was time to find a more permanent home to call our own! **In January 2025,** we moved into a building in Downtown Lititz!

20K+ clients served in 2024

400 sq ft to 2300+ sq ft 338,176 lbs of food provided in 2024

# OUR FOOD PANTRY



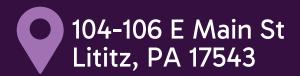


We partner with the Central PA Food Bank to provide nutritious, quality food to our clients. All are welcome, and we really do mean all! Unlike some food pantries, our Resource Center does not require you to be on public assistance. Simply take what you need!

45% growth from Jan 2024 to Dec 2024

1 in 10 Lancaster
County Residents
experience food
insecurity

Our new space in Downtown Lititz is a major step forward, allowing us to better serve and support our community. The larger, more accessible location enables us to provide even more food to clients, in addition to hosting support and social groups. Being in the heart of downtown also increases our visibility, making it easier for those in need to find and access our resources.





Parker Webb He/They Executive Director



Laura Sabatini
She/Her
Director of Development & Operations



Jessica Purdy
She/Her
Director of Human Relations

## TEAM GROWTH

What started as a team of 2 part-time staff members in 2023, has now grown into a team of 6! With a larger team, we can provide more direct services and strengthen our programs. Each new team member brings valuable expertise and passion, ensuring that Lancaster County Chooses Love remains a trusted resource for advocacy and support for the LGBTQ+ community.



Bobbie Jo Benton She/Her Bookkeeper



Stephanie Clayton-Kulfan She/Her Executive and Community Programs Coordinator



Christopher Avilés
He/Him
Digital Communications
Coordinator

# OUR COMMITMENT TO PROTECT THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

With the new government administration, our services are more important than ever.

A series of executive orders and policy changes have directly impacted our trans and nonbinary community members, threatening the rights and safety of LGBTQ+ individuals nationwide.

Lancaster County Chooses Love remains steadfast in our mission to support and uplift the LGBTQ+ community by providing resources, safe spaces, and mutual aid.

We encourage those facing challengeswhether related to documentation, medical concerns, or legal issues- to reach out to us for assistance or connections to supportive services.

Collective action and solidarity are crucial. Stand with us as we navigate these turbulent times together.





- Volunteer at our events and Resource Center
- Donate to help us continue providing essential services
- Speak out against discrimination
- Share our mission with friends & family

**Learn More** 







## **NEW RESOURCES**

Part of our mission is to create safe spaces where LGBTQ+ folks can connect, express themselves, and feel supported. In 2024, we expanded our programming to include craft events, game nights, and more.

In addition, we launched a Name Change Clinic, providing vital assistance to trans and nonbinary individuals navigating the legal name change process. These new resources reflect our ongoing commitment to meeting the evolving needs of our community and ensuring that everyone has access to affirming, supportive spaces.



# **Our First Name Change Clinic**

Through the generous support of the Lancaster Law Foundation, we were able to provide a Name Change Clinic at no cost to community members! Attorneys helped individuals start the legal name change process and provided support until the change was complete! We're excited to hold more Name Change Clinics in 2025!

New for 2024

- Mug painting
- Ornament crafting
- Yoga

- Concert fundraiser
- Group hikes
- & more!

# PRIDE FESTIVAL 2024





Photo Credit: Michael Marcon



Last June we held our 4th annual Lititz Pride Festival at Lititz Springs Park!

While our organization name has changed to Lancaster County Chooses Love, we will continue to host the **Lititz Pride Festival!** 

From approximately 300 attendees at our first festival to over 3,400 in 2024, our Pride celebration has grown into a powerful expression of love and community!

With more attendees, vendors, and performances than ever before, our 2024 festival was a testament to the strength and vibrancy of Lancaster County's LGBTQ+ community.

3400+ attendees 78 vendors

PRIDE 2025: Sat, June 7th, 11am-6pm

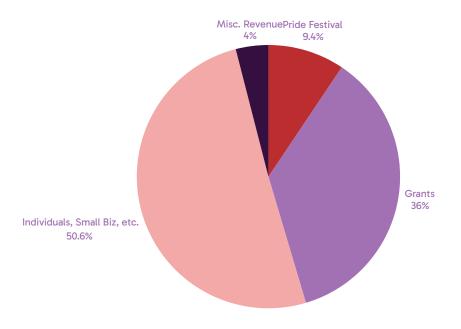
# **FINANCES**

#### **Funding**

As a 501(c)(3), we rely on donations and grants to fund our organization. We are beyond thankful for the support we've received from the community!

#### **Top Grants for 2024:**

Center Link, Capacity Building: \$50,000 LGBTQ+ Giving Circle: \$25,000 The Lancaster Law Foundation: \$10,000 The Central PA Foodbank: \$10,000



# Admin. (Supplies, Insurance, etc.) 17.9% HR/Volunteer Program 3.4% Salary and Fringe 43.2% Contractors 10% Soloms 3.6%

#### **Expenses**

We are committed to using our funds responsibly to best serve the LGBTQ+ community. Our resources are directed toward the programs and services that make the greatest impact, ensuring we remain a thriving organization now and well into the future!

Please note that in 2024 we did not allocate any staff salaries towards programming as we hired several staff members in Q4. About half of our salary expenses were for program staff.

# WHAT'S AHEAD FOR 2025

#### Direct Support

We will continue supporting community members through mutual aid, direct financial support, and our Resource Center. This includes helping folks meet basic needs like housing, gender affirming medical care, legal concerns, and more.

### **Creating Safe Spaces**

We will build on our existing programming to offer more fun, inclusive ways for the LGBTQ+ community to connect!

#### Building Sustainability

We are focused on building long-term sustainability and strengthening our organizational capacity. From expanding funding, to growing our team, and refining our programs, we are laying the groundwork for LCCL to exist for years to come!

### Providing Education

Education is key to creating a more inclusive and supportive community. In 2025, we are expanding our efforts to provide educational resources, workshops, and trainings that focus on understanding, advocacy, and allyship.





# SUPPORT LCCL

Our work is made possible by the generosity of our community. Here's how you can help us continue our mission in 2025!

#### **DONATE-** Your donations help fund the following:

- Community events
- Mutual aid
- Staff salaries
- Food for our Resource Center
- Technology
- Venue rentals

- Staff transportation
- Client transportation
- Legal name change

Donate online at <u>LancasterChoosesLove.org/donate/</u>

**VOLUNTEER-** We're always looking for volunteers! Help out once, as your schedule allows, or volunteer weekly!

- Unload items at the Resource Center
- Run the Resource Center during its open hours
- Silent Witness Peacekeeper at our Pride Festival

Apply to volunteer at <a href="LancasterChoosesLove.org/get-involved/">LancasterChoosesLove.org/get-involved/</a>

#### **SHARE-** Spread the word about our organization!

- Repost our events on your Facebook & Instagram
- Tell your friends and family about LCCL
- Bring friends and family with you to our Pride Festival













