



Gamma Mu Foundation Summer Newsletter June 2019



John Ellis, President, Gamma Mu Foundation

As we approach the end of the Foundation fiscal year, we are thankful of our continued success. Donations to the Foundation have again been very strong and the financial management of our investments has been very successful. Our profitable fundraisers have contributed to the healthy financial position the the Foundation is in.

As a result, the funding for this fiscal years Scholarships and Grants will again match last year"s record amount of \$210,000.

At our summer meeting in Chicago , we will focus on the recommendations presented by the Freemont Center Study to create a business plan approach for the long-term success and financial stability of the Foundation.

Thank you to all the Donors and Board Members who have helped make this a successful year for the Foundation.

GAMMA MU FOUNDATION SUMMER MEETING CHICAGO JULY 12,13,14, 2019



Please join the Board of Directors of the Gamma Mu Foundation for our annual Summer Board Meeting in Chicago, Illinois. **July 12, 13, 14, 2019.** There will be a Chicago Social of Gamma Mu held on Friday night. The Foundation will host a lunch on Saturday for all who are attending. There is no set event for Saturday evening. Please let us know if you are attending.

All meetings will take place at the **University Club of Chicago**, located at **76 E. Monroe St.** The meeting will run from 9AM all day Saturday and Sunday Morning.

[sign in](#)

GAMMA MU FOUNDATION HONORED AT THE GAMMA MU FLY-IN, TORONTO

Welcome letter from the Mayor



Message from the Mayor

It is my pleasure to extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone attending the 53rd Businessman's Luncheon for Gamma Mu Foundation.

The Gamma Mu Foundation has been playing an integral role in supporting rural and under-served populations in the United States. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication in ensuring that everyone has an equal opportunity in accessing vital services and for promoting inclusion and diversity.

We are so pleased that you have chosen to have your luncheon in Toronto – we hope that you take the time to enjoy our great city and experience all that we have to offer.

The City is proud of organizations that are committed to making a difference. I thank everyone participating in this event for your contribution to the well-being of our communities.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, please accept my best wishes for a memorable event and continued success.

Yours truly,

John Tory
Mayor of Toronto

WHAT DOES THE GAMMA MU FOUNDATION MEAN TO YOU?

"Gamma Mu foundation has played a large role in my life for 25 years. I was first made aware of it through the social fraternity as were most others at the time. I truly appreciated several aspects. It was (and remains) all volunteer. It has a niche of helping organizations in rural America and it seeks to maintain a fund for future unmet needs. The support provided to those individuals and their families dealing with HIV/AIDS was very important to me.

I appreciate that as the Foundation grew, it adjusted to the evolving needs of the LGBT community, especially aid to organizations fighting discrimination and the bullying of LGBT youth and the fact that aid continued to be targeted to rural areas.

One of the most important aspects of my continued financial support is the Foundation's extremely low overhead rate. It is also important to me that I, as an active member, can influence where and how may donations are spent by active participation in the grants and scholarship selection process and Board level decision meetings"

Martin W. Culbreth

"As longstanding Gamma Mu members, we are pleased and heartened to generously donate the the Foundation to provide funding for scholarships and grants for the LGBTQ community and its friends. To give back to those who are in need of funds for higher education or capital to run not-for-profit businesses is particularly gratifying. We feel that the Foundation's vision is compelling, and we look forward to being the vanguard to support its mission. Educating our young LGBTQ members is paramount to enhancing their lives. Our hope is that through donating we can inspire continued philanthropic efforts and engender true change in the community.

We hope to establish a culture of giving that will perpetuate itself through successful LGBTQ careers and businesses that will then allow future generations to continue to support our community. Ensuring a legacy of success for our community is what we live for and work for every day."

Dean Greeson and Richard Vanded Heuvel

"I first became involved with the Gamma Mu Foundation shortly after joining the fraternity by volunteering to work as an evaluator on the Grants Committee. That work opened my eyes to a world of wonderful but very needy causes. The Foundation's mission to serve rural and underserved sectors of the community made me realize that big things sometimes really do come in small packages. The more I

worked on the Grants Committee, and shortly thereafter on the Scholarship Committee, led me to commit more and more to the Foundation both financially as a Board Member. I hope to continue to work closely with the Foundation to fulfill its mission and to ensure its longevity. It is an honor to be involved and support this amazing organization"

William Jaume

KINDLY USE THE WEB SITE TO MAKE DONATIONS

THE GAMMA MU FOUNDATION IS URGING DOORS TO USE THE FOUNDATION WEB SITE TO MAKE YOUR CREDIT CARD DONATION RATHER THAN MAILING IT IN THE DONATION ENVELOPE.

[DONATE](#)

THE GAMMA MU FOUNDATION IS ACTIVELY UPGRADING OUR PRESENCE IN PRINTED AND SOCIAL MEDIA

The upgrading of our "behind-the-scenes" page and SEO architecture is progressing. GMF logos have been improved for web and print media use. Home Page design is complete, as well as other pages. New design launch goal is July.

COLORADO GOVERNOR SIGNS BAN ON CONVERSION THERAPY

DENVER (AP) -- Colorado's Jared Polis, elected as the nation's first openly gay governor last year, signed into law a ban on psychotherapy that seeks to change the sexual orientation or gender identity of minors.

Colorado becomes the 18th U.S. state - and the fourth this year- to ban so-called conversion therapy, which has long been denounced by psychology's governing bodies and has been linked to an increased risk of suicide, depression and drug use among teens. Advocacy group ONE COLORADO has estimated that several dozen licensed, unlicensed, secular and religious practitioners in Colorado engage in conversion therapy.

THE GAMMA MU FOUNDATION HAD AWARDED GRANTS TO SEVERAL LGBTQ COLORADO ORGANIZATIONS IN RECENT YEARS.

MICHIGAN SETTLEMENT PROHIBITS LGBT DISCRIMINATION IN STATE'S ADOPTIONS

SF Chronicle, By David Eggert.

Lansing, Mich. - Faith-based adoption agencies that are paid by the state of Michigan will no longer be able to turn away LGBT couples or individuals because of religious objections under a legal settlement. The agreement was reached between Democratic Attorney General Dana Nessel's office and lawyers for the American Civil Liberties Union, which sued the state in 2017 on behalf of two lesbian couples and a woman who was in foster care in here teens.

The ACLU called the settlement a victory for nearly 12,000 children in foster care. Nessel who is gay, successfully fought as a private attorney to overturn Michigan's

NEW TAX LAW FAVORS CHARITABLE GIVING FROM IRA'S

A (QCD) Qualified Charitable Distribution allows those age 70 1/2 go give money to charities directly from their IRAs in a tax advantageous manner. The total QCDs from IRAs cannot exceed \$100,000 for an individual. Spouses can each make up to \$100,000 of QCDs.

Making a QCD as opposed to a normal charitable gift has two main advantages. First a QCD counts toward satisfying the individual's required minimum distribution for that year. Second, the distribution is excluded from the taxpayer's income. It is this second benefit that really shines under the new tax bill.

With very few individuals expected to itemize, the income tax deduction for contributions to charities will be lost for many people. However, if you make a QCD, you get a full exclusion of that income from taxes.



DID YOU KNOW?

Last year the Gamma Mu Foundation received \$779.07 from amazon smile! \$124,651,081.04 was donated by Amazon Smile to charities.

Thank you for supporting the Gamma Mu Foundation by shopping at smile.amazon.com

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

