



Welcome Spring 2021



A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT JOHN ELLIS

Spring is springing! If you live "up North", you are ready for the relief from winter. If you live "down South" like me, you are enjoying the warm climate. We are all beginning to see a hopeful end of what we have lived with for a year. The results of Covid-19.

We are now accepting applications for this cycle of our grant and scholarship awards. The committee chairmen are in the process of presenting these applications to our volunteer reviewers for evaluation and selection and by June the Foundation will be ready to announce the awards.

Based on the increasing market value of The Foundations investments and the continued generosity of our donors, we will be able to award a record amount for both our grant and scholarship recipients. They need our support now more than ever, and we hope to fulfill that need.

We are working diligently on "virtual Celebration 21." We will hold virtual ZOOM calls to allow you to see and interact from donors, as well as grant and scholarship recipients. You will also be able to visit virtually with friends and donors throughout your area and the country.

A number of individual donors have provided donations to allow us the possibility of a "matching dollar for dollar" event.

Please join our virtual events and visit with friends and fellow donors to make this virtual fundraiser a financial success.

We are in the planning process of having our summer board meeting this year in Burlington, Vermont in July.

Thank you for your ongoing support, enjoy spring, and please plan to join us during Celebration events.

If you would like to review our annual report, click below.

SAVE THE DATE!

***GAMMA MU FOUNDATION SUMMER MEETING
SCHEDULED FOR BURLINGTON VERMONT***

The Gamma Mu Foundation is planning to hold our summer meeting in Burlington Vermont July 17, 18, 2021 (Fri / Sat). The event is being planned and will take place at the Hilton Burlington.

More information will be sent when plans are finalized.



***"CELEBRATION"
REIMAGINED FOR
2021***

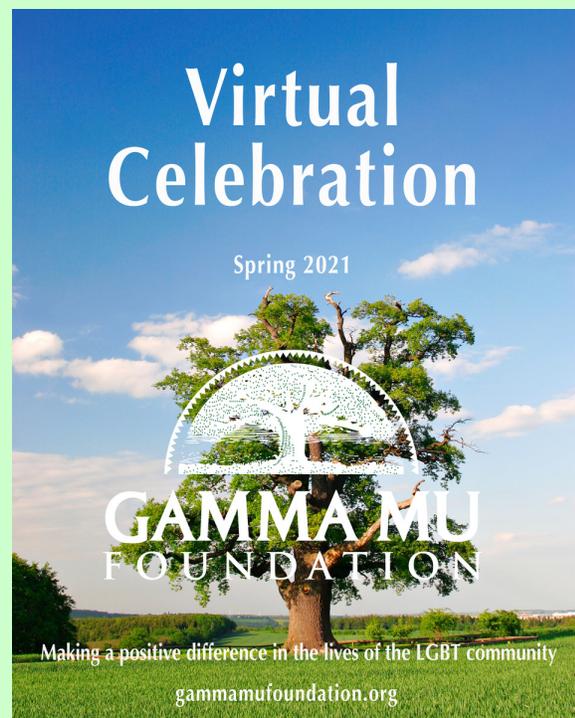
**THE GAMMA MU FOUNDATION
ANNUAL FUNDRAISING EVENT IS
MORE VITAL THAN EVER IN
LIGHT OF COVID-19**

Many nonprofits we support are facing severe budget cuts because of COVID-19 and its associated impact on operations. Many of our scholarship recipients face the added burden of lack of part time jobs due to COVID-19

The Gamma Mu Foundation's January event has raised \$495,329 since it's inception 15 years ago! It has been the highlight of winter events for numerous attendees, both local and from out of state.

In light of travel restrictions and group sizes, we are planning a virtual event ***April 23 - May 2*** and are appealing to our past participants and donors to continue their support. Join fellow donors and friends for ten days of virtual events including meeting some of our Scholarship Recipients and Grant Recipient organizations in virtual interviews. We will resume our regular historically popular event in Ft. Lauderdale as soon as health and safety regulations will allow.

More information about our virtual event will be forthcoming.





More Adult Americans Are Identifying as L.G.B.T., Gallup Poll Finds

The New York Times
By Christina Morales
Feb 24, 2021

A Gallup survey released Wednesday has found that more adult Americans are identifying as L.G.B.T., a shift that pollsters see as driven, at least in part, by people in younger generations who are more likely to consider themselves to be something other than heterosexual.

The poll found that 5.6 percent of adults identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender, rising from 4.5 percent in 2017, the last time Gallup reported an annual update. The poll also found that more than half of L.G.B.T. adults identifies as bisexual.

One in six adults in Generation Z, people born between 1997 and 2002, identify as L.G.B.T., the poll found. The growth in Americans who identify as L.G.B.T. is likely to increase, Gallup's senior editor, Jeffery Jones, wrote in announcing the results. That is because those in younger generations are more likely than those in older generations to consider themselves L.G.B.T., he said.

Americans have been more supportive of equal rights for L.G.B.T. people, Mr. Jones said, prompting an increase in people who identify as L.G.B.T. "I think the findings prove that visibility and acceptance, when combined, will bust out closet doors," said Sarah Kate Ellis, the president and chief executive of GLLAD, an L.G.B.T.Q. media organization and advocacy group.

The survey was based on more than 15,000 interviews conducted throughout 2020 with Americans in all 50 states and the District of Columbia who were 18 or older. Those surveyed were interviewed by both cellphone and landline. They were asked: "Which of these do you consider yourself to be? You can select as many as apply: straight or heterosexual; lesbian; gay; bisexual; transgender."

Gallup said the poll's margin of error was plus or minus one

percentage point for all adults, and plus or minus five percentage points for L.G.B.T. adults.

The identity question in the most recent poll was more detailed than in previous years, Mr. Jones said. Respondents answered their precise sexual orientation instead of answering "yes" or "no" to whether they identified as L.G.B.T.

The Supreme Court has made several landmark rulings in the past decade, adding a more supportive climate for L.G.B.T.Q. people. In 2013, the court ruled that same-sex couples were entitled to federal benefits. In 2015, the court ruled that same-sex marriage was a nationwide right. Most recently, it ruled that civil rights law protected gay and transgender workers.

But challenges continue for L.G.B.T.Q. Americans. Although hundreds of religious leaders around the world signed a declaration demanding a global ban on conversion therapy, which seeks to change the sexual orientations of L.G.B.T.Q. people, only about 20 states have some form of ban on the disputed approach. During president Donald J. Trump's administration, the rollback of rights for transgender people extended through the entire federal government.

An annual report by GLAAD also found that this year that L.G.B.T.Q. representation on television had fallen for the first time in five years.

While leading L.G.B.T.Q. advocacy groups were encouraged that the Gallup results matched their independent polls, leaders said there was more to be done to make estimates more inclusive for people who identify in other ways or are gender nonconforming.

"You're not just erasing their identity, but you're missing an opportunity to understand the complexity of lived experiences," said Amit Paley, the chief executive and executive director of the Trevor Project, an organization that aims to prevent suicides in young L.G.B.T.Q. people."

For leaders, the poll also highlights a perpetual issue in gathering data on L.G.B.T.Q. people that could influence new policies.

"We don't actually know how many L.G.B.T.Q. people in this country die by suicide because death records don't include data on gender identity or sexual orientation, which is erasing L.G.B.T.Q. people in important ways," Mr. Paley said.

Would you like to gain insight into the work your Foundation is doing?

Consider becoming an evaluator for the Grant and/or Scholarship applications. Join a group of dedicated donors who give their time in reviewing these applications and learning first hand how important our work is to so many people in our community. It is an extremely rewarding contribution to the Foundation.

Please contact Doug Morton, Chairman, Scholarship Committee (denverdoug@aol.com) or Peter Harvey, Chairman Grants Committee (pharvey@sbcglobal.net) with any questions and to volunteer.

LEGACY GIFT PLANNING IDEAS FOR FRIENDS OF THE GAMMA MU FOUNDATION

FAQS ABOUT GIVING A GIFT TO CHARITY THROUGH YOUR WILL OR TRUST

What are the benefits of leaving a gift to charity in my will or trust?

- Provide support to causes you care about
- Create a legacy and ensure that your values live on for future generations
- Costs you nothing now - you retain full control of your assets during your lifetime
- Simple to create and changeable at any time
- Potential tax deduction for your estate

How do I make a charitable bequest through my will or trust?

You can designate a specific dollar amount, a percentage of your total estate, or a specific piece of property to be given to charity. Or, after first providing specific gifts for your loved ones, you can designate whatever is left over (known as the "remainder") to charity.

I already have a will or trust. Do I have to rewrite the whole thing just to include gifts to charities?

No. Ask your attorney to prepare a simple document called a "codicil" to amend your will or trust.

Should I tell the charities about my plans?

Making sure that the charities you've named in your will or trust know about your intentions can benefit in several ways.

By including the charity in the planning process, you can make sure that you have the correct language (including the charity's full legal name and taxpayer identification number) to give to your attorney. If you're thinking about restricting your gift to a specific use, this also allows the charity to review your restriction to ensure they will be able to use the gift as you intend.

For more information, contact any board member or John Ellis (johnefla@aol.com)

Donations in memory/honor of this quarter.

Ben Guenther IMO Al Roush

Richard Alther IMO Ray Repp

Justin Alves IHO David Ryan

Bret Stover IMO Chip Matza

Michael Burkhart & Bob Kelly IMO Chip Matza

John Moody IMO Chip Matza

Jay Starbuck IMO Chip Matza

Jeff Diebley IMO Jim McClland

Andrew Hornbrook IMO Chip Matza

Don Ferguson IMO Jimmy Langham



GuideStar awards The Gamma Mu Foundation it's highest rating!

GuideStar, the largest non-profit rating organization, has awarded the Gamma Mu Foundation it's highest rating for transparency.

How does this help the Foundation?

- **Demonstrates that we are an organization that is focused on measuring our progress and results.**
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- **Gives potential funders information they crave, so it's good for fundraising.**
 -
- **Shows our improvement and results year over year.**
 -
- **Provides a concrete alternative to donors evaluating us using our overhead ratio.**



Help the Gamma Mu Foundation help others as you shop

Amazon Smile is a program that returns a percentage of sales to non-profits as designated by the purchaser. As you shop, help our Foundation at the same time by buying through "AmazonSmile"

As of March, AmazonSmile had donated \$241,928,506 to all charities in the US.

Gamma Mu has received \$1,418.31

Go to: www.smile.amazon.com/ and log in as you usually would to Amazon. Go to "Your Account" and select "pick or change search" and select the Gamma Mu Foundation as a favorite charity and when you shop a donation will automatically made with no cost to you.

Tell you friends and family !

amazon smile

PLEASE USE THE WEBSITE TO MAKE DONATIONS

If you haven't done so, visit our newly re-vamped website.

Our ***Foundation*** is receiving an unprecedented number of requests for Grants and Scholarships and we are only able to fund a small fraction of our requests.

Please consider making an "***Extra***" donation this year so that the Foundation can fulfill more of our requests.

The Gamma Mu Foundation is an *all volunteer* organization

GAMMA MU FOUNDATION

