



AspenOUT Announces Grant Recipients—from Local to National Organizations

June 15, 2022 (ASPEN, CO): AspenOUT, serving the LGBT community of the Roaring Fork Valley and beyond since 1996, announces its grant recipients for 2022.

“Our board of directors is proud to announce AspenOUT will grant \$58,000 this year to local, state and national organizations,” commented the organization’s Executive Director, Kevin McManamon. “In addition, nine scholarships were given to graduating seniors from area high schools, totaling \$22,500, and \$40,000 will be given this year in direct mental health services.”

Returning for its 46th year in 2023, Aspen Gay Ski Week, AspenOUT’s annual fundraiser, generates a majority of these funds to grant organizations that provide support to the LGBTQ community.

The list of grant recipients is as follows:

- **Andy Zanca Youth Empowerment Program:** Develops leadership and identity by providing training to youth in community broadcasting on KDNK; AZYEP broadcasts youth news programs about acceptance and tolerance
- **Tyler Clementi Foundation:** Creates safe, inclusive spaces for individuals facing bullying, harassment and humiliation
- **Transgender Legal Defense and Education Fund:** Works to achieve equality for transgender people through public education, test-case litigation, direct legal services and public policy
- **Aspen Hope Center:** Creates hope to those in emotional crisis and works to decrease the stigma of mental illness; the center offers a local youth outreach program for LGBTQ students, called “Alphabet Soup”
- **Point Foundation:** Provides LGBT students with scholarships, mentoring, leadership development, and community service training
- **You Can Play:** Dedicated to ensuring equality for all athletes without regard to sexual orientation; challenges the culture of locker rooms and spectators by focusing only on an athlete’s skills and work ethic
- **Windwalkers:** Provides equine-assisted therapies to aid in the development and growth of those with challenges, be they physical, neurological, emotional, behavioral or psychological
- **Center on Colfax:** Opening in 1976, the Center is the largest LGBTQ community center in the Rocky Mountain region
- **Queer Asterisk:** Provides counseling services, educational trainings, and therapeutic programs centering queer and trans experiences
- **Unique Woman’s Coalition:** Committed to fostering the next generation of black trans leadership from within the community through mentorship, scholarship, and community care engagement work
- **TransFamily Support Services:** Assists youths and their families in navigating the journey of gender by helping TGNC peoples find gender-affirming healthcare, mental health care, safe spaces within their area, legal assistance and more
- **Response:** Assists survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in the Roaring Fork Valley
- **Aspen Hope Center:** Creates hope to those in emotional crisis and works to decrease the stigma of mental illness; the center offers a local youth outreach program for LGBTQ students, called “Alphabet Soup”
- **Aspen Public Radio**
- **Planned Parenthood**
- **Aspen Film**

“A special thanks to our generous donors and sponsors for making these grants and scholarships possible,” finished McManamon. “As much as AspenOUT is about the fun, we strive to provide resources to help the LGBTQ community flourish and come together.”

About AspenOUT

With a mission of promoting tolerance, understanding and diversity through education, community action and service, AspenOUT has been serving the LGBT community of the Roaring Fork Valley and beyond since 1996 as a non-profit organization. AspenOUT produces many events throughout the year, including Aspen Gay Ski Week each January, which brings thousands of LGBT skiers to the mountains of central Colorado. AspenOUT not only supports local anti-bullying and tolerance programs, it also supports national organizations, such as Point Foundation and Tyler Clementi Foundation. Visit aspenout.org to learn more.

About Aspen Gay Ski Week

Returning for its 46th year in 2023, Aspen Gay Ski Week (AGSW) is the oldest annual, week-long gay ski event in the nation. A model for other gay ski weeks, AGSW offers a unique vacation experience in the scenic and historic mountain town of Aspen, Colorado. AGSW visitors enjoy four mountains of varied skiing and snowboarding terrain, as well as cross-country skiing, snowshoe and winter hiking trails in the Elk Mountains of Colorado. For more information, visit www.gayskiweek.com.