From the Executive Director

We did it! After many months of negotiation, planning, construction, and packing, we will move into our Bedford-Stuyvesant home at Restoration Plaza on August 15.

Through it all, we managed to keep our doors open Monday through Friday, 12-8pm, with two full-time and three part-time staffers, and dozens of incredible volunteers. We aspire to longer open hours but, for now, that too is cause for celebration.

Yet all around us are familiar threats. The broader political environment continues to attack the LGBTQ+ community in general; people of color and transgender and gender nonconforming people in particular.

One theme keeps emerging over and over as I reflect on these things, and the year: It’s heroism. By definition, a hero is a person or character of a literary work who, in the face of danger, combats adversity through impressive feats of ingenuity, bravery or strength, often sacrificing their own personal concerns for a greater good.

Dr. Demetre and Carlos Menchaca, honorees at the 2017 Community Leadership Awards and Gala, are heroes. They soar above common bounds in ways that inspire me every day. From AIDS prevention to immigration advocacy, these two are heroic warriors: queer bedrocks of our community.

But they’re not the only ones. If you are reading this, it means you are among us: a friend, ally, or direct member of the LGBTQ+ community. You could be a visitor to the Center who takes advantage of all that we have to offer, a donor, volunteer, staff or board member, committee member, or a program officer at a foundation.

No matter how you identify, at some point you will have screwed your courage to its sticking place throughout the year to stand-up as an ally, for yourself, or even for the Brooklyn Community Pride Center.

I am deeply honored to serve our beloved community. Thank you!

Floyd Rumohr
Vision and Value Proposition

Our vision is to become Brooklyn’s premier network of programs and services for the LGBT+ community of New York City’s largest borough.

Across the spectrum from young people to elders, the Brooklyn Community Pride Center enables our community to actively participate in positive, life-affirming activities. We offer a distinctive choice for residents of New York City’s largest borough to celebrate, heal, learn, create, organize, relax, socialize, and play.

Mission

The Brooklyn Community Pride Center provides services and support to the borough’s LGBT+ community through original programming and partnerships with existing organizations.

Program Areas

Youth Age 12-24
- Established in 2011
- Unique visitors: 239 (FY16: 310)
- Contact sessions: 1,361 (FY16: 924)
- Discussions groups and educational forums; bullying, HIV/AIDS, coming out, LGBTQ rights, self-care, accessing resources, writing groups; healthy recreational activities through field trips, dances, and outdoor adventures.

Open Mic Nights were a highlight of the year! Young people got to showcase their various talents such as, singing, dancing, spoken word, poetry, comedy, etc.

Elders Age 50+
- Established 2012
- Unique visitors: 14 (FY16: 40)
- Contact sessions: 224 (FY16: 138)

Ongoing social-community building support group with activities including discussions, games, movies, cultural outings, and guest presenters.
Transgender and Gender Nonconforming (TGNC)

- Established 2013
- Unique visitors: 65 (FY16: 188)
- Contact sessions: 137 (FY16: 353)

Weekly drop-in group gave members of the transgender community a safe space to discuss different topics, explore TGNC resources within Brooklyn/New York all while exploring multiple identities.

For more information, visit: [http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/tgnc/](http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/tgnc/).

Arts and Culture

- Established 2016
- Unique visitors: 8,785 (FY16: 141)
- Supports emerging LGBT+ artists as well as community members who seek to find their own artistic voice.

2017 brought a robust expansion of arts and culture offerings at the Center. From collaborations with the New York Theatre Workshop, to diving deep into the prolific words of James Baldwin, our community celebrated its depth and breadth of lived experience through creativity this year. Most notably, our LGBTQ New Americans oral history project engaged a new cohort and collected six new interview to add to the historical record of LGBTQ lived experience.

For more information, visit: [http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/arts-culture/](http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/arts-culture/).

Community Partners

- Established 2009
- Number of partners: 8 (FY16: 15)
- Total contact sessions: 1,210 (FY16: 1,540)
- 12-step recovery groups, support groups, and HIV testing and counseling. For current listings, please visit [http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/12step-support/](http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/12step-support/).

A community partners highlight is CAMBA's Young Men’s Health Project that serves young men who have sex with men (YMSM) ages 13-29, including those who identify as transgender or gender nonconforming. For more information, please visit [http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/camba/](http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/camba/).
Other programmatic highlights:

- Jordan Reeves from Video Out visited the Brooklyn Center twice to record coming out stories. See elder Clint Winant's video here: https://youtu.be/KmFfKnwy8vg.

- Asako Makimura, a Japanese lesbian writer, interviewed elders about the acronym LGBT for a book she is writing. She followed-up with two Skype sessions; one from Tokyo (in the middle of the night there) and one from LA. She also sent us a video from Tokyo Pride 2017 and an audio interview she conducted with Gilbert Baker a few months before he died.

**Significant Milestones**

**LGBTQ New Americans Project Honored**  
September 28, 2016

City Council Member, Jumaane D. Williams, honored the Brooklyn Community Pride Center, Immigration Equality, and five LGBTQ+ artists for their hard work and advocacy on behalf of the LGBTQ+ community in Brooklyn.

Many thanks to Fredo Hernandez, Arts and Culture Group Leader for his leadership of the project; Jackie Yodashikin from Immigration Equality for their collaboration; Rebecca Centeno for video-making; and the 2017 New Americans: Elle (Bulgaria), Marvin (Jamaica), Sei (Philippines), Sergey (Kazakhstan), Alex (Jamaica), Oliver (Nigeria), and Julia (South Asia). The oral histories are available on our website: [http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/lgbtq-new-americans-project/](http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/lgbtq-new-americans-project/).

**SAGE Table Event**  
May 18, 2017

Nearly thirty guests joined us for our first ever SAGE Table Event. Many thanks to Debbie Brennan, Board Chair, and Floyd Rumohr, Executive Director, for hosting.

SAGE Table is a special one-day event that asks you to share a meal with LGBT+ people and allies of different generations. Simply sitting down to a table together gives us all a chance to have conversations that many of us have never had before. As we build connections among LGBT+ people of all ages, we strengthen our community ties, learn more about how we can care for each other, and forge new traditions.
Brooklyn Center Receives Community Social Impact Award
June 20, 2017

The Brooklyn Center was honored by Eric Gonzalez, Acting District Attorney, Brooklyn with a Community Social Impact Award. We were in good company with other honorees including the Ali Forney Center, Caribbean American Pride, and Kylar Broadus.

Relocation to Restoration Plaza

It’s been a long time coming! As of June 30, 2017, we anticipate occupying our new home at 1360 Fulton, Restoration Plaza, Brooklyn, on August 15.

Many thanks to David Kooy and Debbie Brennan for leading the construction effort; Adrian Libert for planning and implementing a twenty-first century technology infrastructure and to the many donors who have made the build-out possible!

What’s Ups with the Down Numbers?

The numbers are up for arts programming and down across all other program strands. The reason? Public perception that we’ve been moving from 4 MetroTech has persisted throughout the fiscal year and has affected all nonarts related programming. Understandably, some folks (especially elders) are reluctant to travel to downtown Brooklyn particularly if they are faced with mobility issues.

Our new location at 1360 Restoration Plaza on the corner of New York Avenue and Herkimer not only doubles square footage but we expect foot traffic to increase significantly through FY18.
The LGBTQ New Americans Project’s rapid increase is because videos are online and can be accessed by users all over the world.

**Board Transitions**

Two new cause champions began lending their time, talent, and treasure to the Brooklyn Community Pride Center in FY17.

**Stephanie Johnson**, Senior Marketing Manager, Gwynnie Bee

Stephanie brings her technology, marketing, and communications strengths to the Brooklyn Community Pride Center through her service as chair of the pr/marketing committee.

**Sonelius Kendrick-Smith**, Director, Deutsche Asset Management, Deutsche Bank

Sonelius co-chaired last year’s Community Leadership Awards and Gala and is an asset to the Brooklyn Community Pride Center through his vast experience in financial management.

**Staff**

Floyd Rumohr, Executive Director (FT)
Dillon Seebalack, Program and Development Coordinator (FT)

Wilfredo (“Fredo”) Hernandez, Arts and Culture Group Leader (PT)
Judy Kamilhor, Elder Group Leader (PT)
Stephen Rainforth, Creative Director (Contracted)
Joshua Terefé, TGNC Group Facilitator (PT)

Accounting and bookkeeping services provide by Karen Rand Associates, LLC.

**Independent Auditor**

Del Valle & Frias, CPA’s PLLC

Pro-bono Counsel

Many thanks to Venable, LLP for pro-bono counsel. From real estate to human resource advice and matters in between, we thank you! We are particularly grateful to Suzanne St. Pierre, Joseph Piscina, Sandy Schlesinger, and Brian Turoff.

“As a cis gender heterosexual woman, I wanted to stand-by the LGBTQ+ community. I was looking for a group to look out for and invest in. And I got all that back and more. The Brooklyn Center looked out for me and invested in me.”
- Libby Peterson, Volunteer

Volunteers

Jon Arditti    |    Elizabeth Howland    |    Thor Perplies
Rose Bagnarol |    Larissa Humphrey     |    Libby Peterson
Mike Bergin   |    Austin Jung          |    Natalie Raskin
Olivia Bevacqua |    Kristina Kashtanova |    Alice Remsnyder
John Brady    |    M Lesser             |    Enoch Riese
Hannah Carl   |    Adrian Libert        |    Lucio Romero
Nick Cevoli   |    Giovana Lorenzotti  |    Nina Spierer
Steven Cortiella |    Jessica Mahmoud   |    Apollonia Tiliti
Ruby Graham Dore |    Eliza Edel McClelland |    Jayson Vivas
Oliva Dunbar  |    Shy Mckenzie         |    Zell Watson
Connor Durkin |    Joseph Mercado       |    Audriana White
Kate P. Fitzsimons |    Mariel Mok       |    Kwok Yim
Mollie Gallant |    Harry Nadeau         |    

The LGBTQ New Americans project was supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with New York City Council.
Thank You to Our Supporters!
July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

The Brooklyn Community Pride Center is grateful for the generous support from the following LGBT+ champions without whom our work would not be possible.

2017 Community Leadership Awards and Gala Honorees on June 15, 2017 were Dr. Demetre Daskalakis, Queer Health Warrior, and Carlos Menchaca, NYC Council Member, 38th District, Brooklyn. We are grateful for their support and leadership in our community.

Every effort is ensure the accuracy of the list below. Please email corrections to Dillon Seebalack, Development Associate, at dseebalack@lgbtbrooklyn.org.

Cornerstone Society

$50,000+

H. van Ameringen Foundation

$20,000+

Debbie Brennan and Lisa Davis
Citi Community Development
Janice Savin Williams
(The Williams Capital Group)
NYC Council Member Brad Lander
NYC Council Speakers Fund

$10,000+

Chubb Personal Risk Services
David Kooy
NYC Council Member Carlos Menchaca

$5,000+

BFC Partners
Sarita Niranjan Bhatt
Celebrity Cruises
NYC Council Member Laurie Cumbo
Lisa Davis
NBCUniversal

NYC Council Member Daniel Dromm
NYC Department of Cultural Affairs
Scharpf Family Foundation
NYC Council Member Vincent Gentile
Venable LLP Foundation
NYC Council Member Jumaane Williams
$2,500+

Fidelity Charitable
NYC Council Member Robert Cornegy
Stephanie Johnson
Marta Heflin Foundation
Terrance Knox

NYC Council Member Stephen Levin
Karen Potter
NYC Council Member Antonio Reynoso
Jonathan Santos-Ramos

"I know I can make an impact on the Brooklyn Center, which is the only LGBTQ+ community center in Brooklyn. That motivated me to jump on board and help it grow. I have seen my contribution make a huge difference!"
- Nick Gomez, Co-Chair
2017 Community Leadership Awards and Gala

$1,000+

A G Foundation in honor of Henry van Ameringen
Alamo Citi Point, LLC
Steve Ashkinazy and Michael Gomillion
Gold Coast Bank

Corinne P Lewis
Abdul Muid
Robert Murayama
Culour Magazine
Thomas Smith

Donors
$500 – $999

Apple Bank for Savings
Earl Brown
Wayne Christie
Anthony Crowell
Kerry A English
James Johnson
Marc Karavasian
NYC Department of Mental Health and Hygiene
Santa Barbara Foundation
Sonelius Kendrick-Smith
David Lopez
Matt Sturiale
Annette Torres
$100 – $499

Barbara Abrams
Erica Anderson
Asher
Irene Blake
William Jones
Ana Bermudez and Jackie Deane in honor of Barbara Cavallo and Lois Abramchik in memory of their cousin Matthew
Marianne Bower and David Hughes
Charles Branstool
Stephanie Braun
Ellen Brooks
Renee Vera Cafiero
Allan Eduardo Cerrato
Michael Coccagnia
Lizzie Cofrancesco
Jacqueline Cook
Vera Danner
Gary and Trevis Davis
Aisha Diori
Natalie Egan
Charles Eubanks
Carolyn Farhie
Marc Fliedner
Lise Foss
Samuel Fraenkel
Rogelio Francois
Rocky Glines
Amy Glosser
Blake Glover
Bernie Gonzalez
Kathy Greene
Howard Hassman
Dylan Hightower
Joshuaedwin Hinkson
Emma Hutchens
Jessica Balboni
Jennifer Beeson
Michael Bellanich
Joseph Jarrin
Henry Jason
Shelley Johnson
David Jones
Lawrence Joseph
Brian Kenny
Theo Kogan
Charles Kopelman
Joseph Kopitz and Kenneth Diamondstone
Thomas Krever
Helena Krodel Wegweiser
The Lavender Tangent
Reinaldo Leandro
Deborah Levinson
Janet Lie in honor of Gidon Levy
Gilberto D Lopez
Ricky Love
Andrea Lucca
Alexander Mager
Lou Martarano
Melanie Martinez
Albert Massimi
Brian Mastroianni
Patrick McGrath
Jeremy McGraw
Crystal McIntosh
Matthew Truitt
McMorrow
Philip Mehaffey
Patricia Mendell
Jessie Merrill
Richard J. Montelione
Monet Moon
Jessica Morris
Michael Muska
Elizabeth and Steve Bentley
Daniel J Beyman
Megan Myers
William Nazareth
Onaney Ortiz
Elizabeth Ott
PayPal Giving Fund
David Parker
Chelsea Pemberton
Thor Perplies
Anthony Piccolo
Stephen Rainforth
Robert Rifkin
Donnie Roberts and Geoff Allman
Jeremy Roerer
JD Roerer
Nicholas Ross
Thomas Rozboril
Floyd Rumohr and Paco Arroyo
Sylvia Ryan
Elizabeth Alden Schell
David Cloyce Smith
Luis E Solarte
Erin Stark
Amy Marie Stewart
Joy Stone
Monique Stokes and Latoya Stuckey
Adia Terry-Puryear
Edward Thompson
Robert J. Troeller
Michael Tumminia
Ijeoma S. Uba
Zell Watson
Justin Wee
Susan White
Louis J Yungling
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### In-Kind


“*I love the Brooklyn Center because the staff is so caring and so welcoming. They have a lot of wonderful books and I enjoy reading. In addition, it's also an opportunity to connect with other LGBTQ people from all walks of life*.”

- Ijeoma Uba, Constituent and Donor
Financials
July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017 unaudited draft. FY17 audited financial statements are in process and will be published on our website when available.

Income: $353,323  Expenses:  $351,313

Board Members
Debbie Brennan, President  Stephanie Johnson
Terrance Knox, Secretary  Sonelius Kendrick-Smith
Debbie Levinson, Treasurer  Sarita Niranjan Bhatt
Jonathan Santos-Ramos, Vice President  David Kooy

Committees
- **Executive**, Debbie Brennan, Chair. Members: Terrance Knox, Jonathan Santos-Ramos, Sonelius Kendrick-Smith
- **Finance**: Members: Stephanie Johnson and Jonathan Santos-Ramos.
- **Fund Development**, Lisa Davis, Chair. Members: Floyd Rumohr
- **Real Estate**, David Kooy, Chair. Members: Debbie Brennan and Floyd Rumohr
- **Board Development**, Debbie Brennan, Chair. Members: Floyd Rumohr

Ad hoc:
- **2017 Community Leadership Awards and Gala**
  Steering Committee: Debbie Brennan, Lisa Davis, Stephanie Johnson, Jonathan Santos-Ramos, Floyd Rumohr
  Co-chairs: Jordan Bach, Nicholas Gomez, David Lopez

Advisory Council
Richard Allman, Earl Brown, Julian Kline, and Tom Smith

Photos
Courtesy of Brooklyn District Attorney’s Office, Steven Fredman, Kristina Kashtanova, and The Photo Booth.
In the News

Media presence continues to be very strong for the Brooklyn Community Pride Center:

- **The Advocate**, October 13, 2016: *On November 8, Vote for Me* by Oliver Anene.
- **NY1 Online**, February 1, 2017: *A Debate Grows in Central Brooklyn by Road to City Hall.*
- **Kings County Politics**, May 12, 2017: *Brooklyn Law Makers on the Move, Hamilton Stands With LGBTQ Community Against Hate Crimes*
- **BK Live, June 5, 2017**: Floyd Rumohr and Vaughn E. Taylor-Akutagawa describe areas of need for the LGBTQ+ community of Brooklyn on BK Live.
- **News12**, June 20, 2017: Brooklyn Law School hosts pride celebration
- **Brooklyn Daily Eagle**, June 21: Acting DA Gonzalez announces LGBTQ initiative during Pride Month celebration
- **Gay City News**, June 22 – July 5, 2017: Leadership Awards at Brooklyn Pride Center
- **Fox5 News**, June 23, 2017: Pride and prejudice? Race tinges LGBT celebrations

Please visit [http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/events-news/](http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/events-news/) to read the above articles online.
Goals for FY18

1. Leadership, Governance and Strategy
   a. Populate finance/audit committee.
   b. Develop a plan to evaluate expansion opportunities beyond 2020 using a framework developed in collaboration with Reaching OUT MBA.
   c. Attract a pro-bono PR firm to assist with managing the organization’s public perception.

2. Programs
   a. Establish a robust internship project for LGBTQ+ youth.
   b. Restructure ElderPride.

3. Strategic Partnerships
   a. Develop collaborations with several organizations to leverage limited resources that benefit LGBTQA+ Brooklynites.

4. Financial Management and Reporting
   a. Sustain expenses for 2018 Community Leadership Awards and Gala.
   b. Establish three-month cash reserve to manage cash flow against city contracts.

5. Marketing and Communications
   a. Rebrand for a modern, fresh look in conjunction with move to Restoration Plaza.
Contribute to Your Center!

Make your safe, secure online donation here: http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/donate/