


BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025

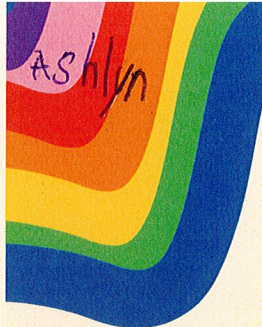
Celebrating pride is important
because knowing that other people
are also with you and are with you
the whole way can really help you to
feel comfortable with yourself and
who you are! 

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES





BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025



Ashlyn

It's important
for people to be
able to be who they want.

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025

LGBTQ+ wellness means equal
treatment from medical staff who are
knowledgeable about the issues that affect us.

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025

MY NAME IS SCOTT GRUENDL AND I AM THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF BHRS, THE SPONSOR & ORGANIZER OF SMC PRIDE. I WAS THIS YEAR'S GRAND MARSHALL. I HAVE KNOWN I AM GAY SINCE AGE 11. I CAME OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE AIDS EPIDEMIC AND PEOPLE AROUND ME WERE DYING. SO I RAN FROM THE BAY AREA, FROM BEING GAY, FROM AIDS, TO A SMALL TOWN. I RAN FROM WHO I AM. BUT YOU CAN'T RUN FROM THE TRUTH. I BECAME HIV POSITIVE IN 1995 WHEN MY PARTNER DIED FROM AN AIDS RELATED STRAIN OF PNEUMONIA. WHENEVER THE NEWS WANTED TO INTERVIEW SOMEONE GAY, THEY CAME TO MY DOOR. IN 1998, I BECAME THE 1ST HIV+ PERSON TO BE NOMINATED TO THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE. IN 2002, I BECAME CHICO'S 1ST OPENLY GAY MAYOR, SERVING FOR 12 YEARS. I HAVE BEEN IN THE NATIONAL NEWS, FEATURED IN POZ MAGAZINE, AND RECOGNIZED FOR MY LEADERSHIP. I TRIED TO RUN, AVOID AIDS, AND BEING GAY, I AM HERE TODAY AS THE MAIN ORGANIZER OF SMC PRIDE. I LOVE MY COMMUNITY. I AM SO PROUD OF MY COMMUNITY. I LOVE BEING GAY AND I LOVE BEING ME!


Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



**BHRS ODE PRIDE
CELEBRATION 2025**

Celebrating Pride
is important
because
LOVE
IS
LOVE 

*Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program* →



**SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES**



BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025

Celebrating PRIDE is important

BECAUSE it
gives people a chance to be free
and to embrace their identity.



Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025

Celebrating Pride is important
because everyone DESERVES to
be acknowledged and seen.



Happy
PRIDE

Provided by  Diversity and Equity's
Stigma Reduction Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025



LGBTQ+ wellness
means representation
& equitable & suitable
LGBTQ+ ~~the~~ behavioral
health services for
all. Individuals
are empowered
to be their fullest
selves when they
are seen!

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025

~~Act~~ Acknowledging the pride
Community is important because it
brings a sense of belonging and community
to those who feel alone and silenced. It
creates empowerment and confidence
to be who you are! Pride Month
allows me to be myself, it makes
me feel confident and proud!

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



BHRS ODE PRIDE
CELEBRATION 2025

Celebrating PRIDE
is important
because

WE ALL
MATTER! ❤️



by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →

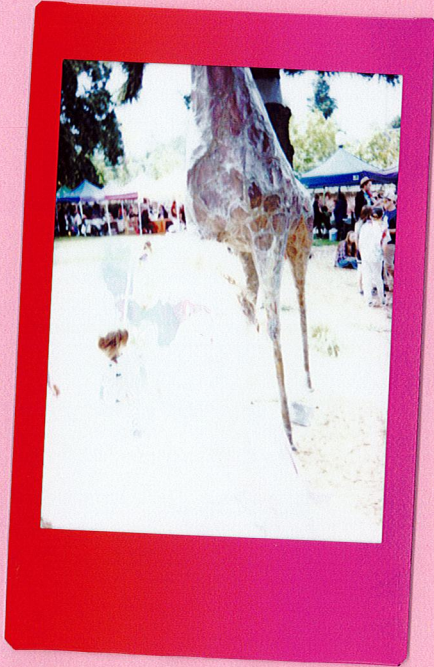


SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025

LGBTQAI+ WELLNESS



- GETTING TAKEN SERIOUSLY
- COMMUNITY MINDFULNESS/SUPPORT
- LEADING w/ KINDNESS
- GRACE
- FUNDED RESOURCES
- ACCESSIBLE HEALTHCARE
- UNAPOLOGETIC JOY

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025

Being from a town, where I couldn't
be myself, let alone express myself,
Wellness equals being able to
celebrate Pride! Wellness is being
with my husband, being open
and honest with myself
and to the world around me.

Pride = Wellness
♡



BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
telling Photovoice Program →



BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025

LGBTQ+ wellness to me is living authentically
& without fear of hate or judgement. To be loved &
to feel loved. ♡



Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025

Celebrating Pride is important
because our community
thrives when we all can be
our full, authentic selves. Diversity
is our strength and our reality: let's
celebrate this together!

— Adam Loraine
Deputy Mayor, City of
San Mateo

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



BHRS ODE PRIDE
CELEBRATION 2025

Celebrar el Orgullo
LGBTQ+ es importante
Para Crear comunidad y
amor ♡.



-Francis

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



**BHRS ODE PRIDE
CELEBRATION 2025**

— Igualdad.

— Todos merecen
respeto
independientemente
de su elección.

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →

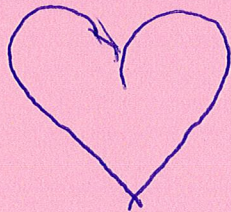


SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES**



BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025

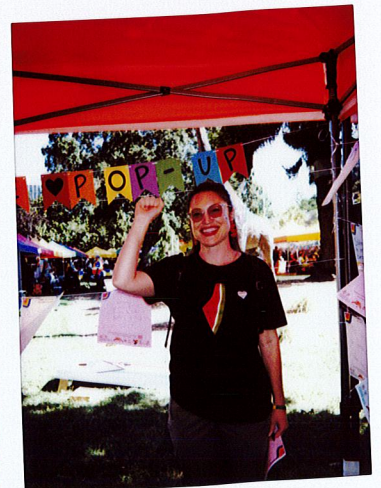
Pride started as a riot against police brutality. Pride reminds me of the beauty of our transcestors who sacrificed greatly for liberation. It reminds me of the beauty and joy in trans and queer resistance. There is no pride in genocide, borders or binaries. Free Palestine - no more weapons for genocide! Migration is beautiful - pride is bigger than any border. I pray for collective liberation and beloved community. Power to the people!



Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



**BHRS ODE PRIDE
CELEBRATION 2025**

Es importante
recordar que el
amor viene de todas
las formas y colores
Love is Love

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES**



BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025

Pride is important because it helps
other Queer people feel seen and be
comfortable with their identities

pride is about keeping Queer kids alive, safe.

-Alex ☺

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025

Pride is a minority and needs recognition
because we mean something, and we deserve
to exist and be recognized.
Pride is turned away and demonized when
we deserve love and celebration.

I am proud of being nonbinary, and
bisexual and I deserve to be loved.
Pride helps LGBTQIA2S+ kids feel loved.
You are loved! 😊

- Parker 😊

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025

celebrating pride is important
to me because LGBTQ+ people deserve
representation, and to be treated equal
to everyone else.



-Avery

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025

To be free to express who
you are without fear. Love
is Love!

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →

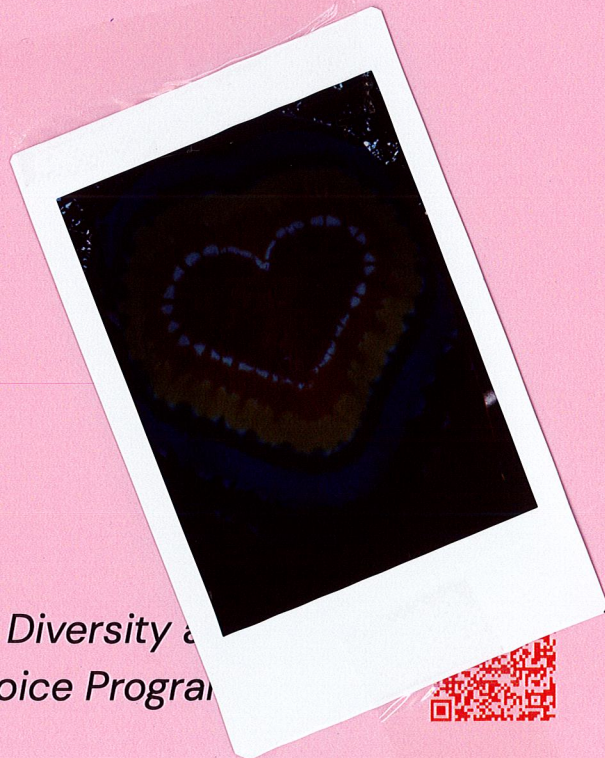


SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



**BHRS ODE PRIDE
CELEBRATION 2025**

*Celebrating LGBTQ+ wellness is
important to me because everyone
matters and we all need validation
and community.
Connection is
everything!!*



Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity & Equity
Storytelling Photovoice Program



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES**



BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025

LGBT wellness = Equity / inclusion for all spiritual,
emotional, mental, physical health.

*Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program* →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES**



**BHRS ODE PRIDE
CELEBRATION 2025**

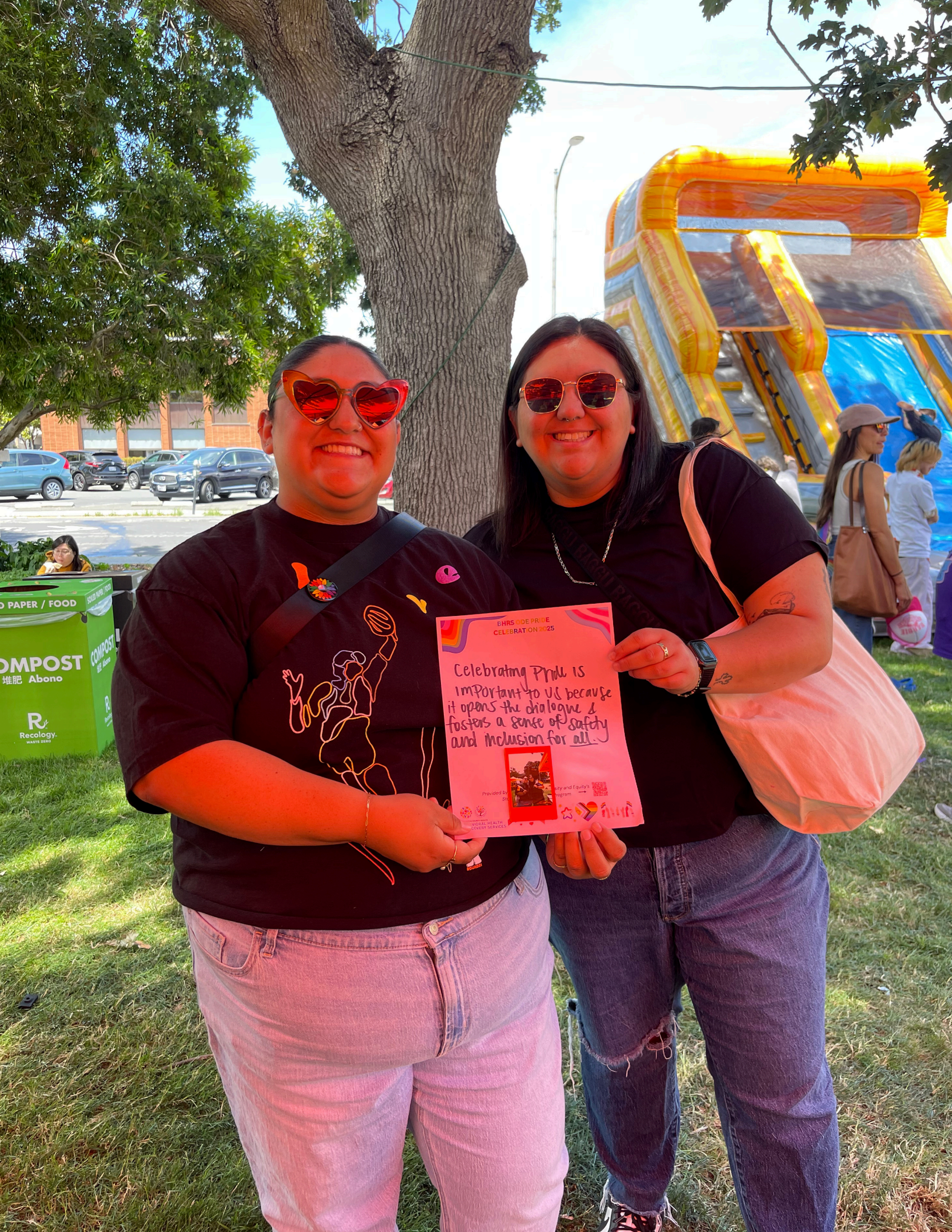
LGBTQ+ wellness means
a safer, more accessible
community for all, but **ESPECIALLY**
our queer elders ✓

*Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program* →



**SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES**





EHRHS GDE PRIDE
CELEBRATION 2025

Celebrating Pride is
important to us because
it opens the dialogue &
fosters a sense of safety
and inclusion for all.

Provided by St. ... and Equity's ... program

VIRAL HEALTH COUNSELING SERVICES

BHRS ODE PRIDE
CELEBRATION 2025

I have 3 kids and I am so proud of them and want to celebrate all aspects of who they are. This is so important today, when messages from others have been not just excluding but hostile.

My eldest is transgender. She is creative, passionate about justice, and as stubborn as I am.

My middle kiddo is non binary, asexual, and is headed to college. They are positive about making differences in the world.

My youngest is a gender nonconforming young man. He likes long hair and dresses and identifies as he/him. He's a

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's

Storytelling Photovoice Program

ally to his siblings.



I love them all



BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025



Celebrating pride is important because we are a community with a rich history that deserves to be celebrated. We have existed as long as humanity has existed, and our stories are stories worth sharing. No amount of hate, anti-LGBTQ+ legislation, etc, will erase our history or community. Now more than ever we must be visible, both to LGBTQ-phobes, and to each other. We must show that we won't back down, and represent ourselves to the youth so that they know they deserve to be here, too. Pride can be a party, or it can be a riot. We are literally a rainbow, of all colors, and metaphorically, a rainbow of lived experiences.

Celebrate queer joy, honor queer resistance, and remember queer history. There is no future without acknowledging our past.

Keep fighting! Keep being visible!
Keep being yourself; no matter who pushes you &
keep getting back up.

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES







BHRS ODE PRIDE
CELEBRATION 2025

Wellness =
LOVE, SAFETY,
INCLUSION, EQUAL
RIGHTS, and
REPRESENTATION
FOR ALL

We celebrate pride because
we believe + because there is more
work to do to make this a reality
for ALL.

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES



BHRS ODE PRIDE
CELEBRATION 2025

I have 3 kids and I am so proud of them and want to celebrate all aspects of who they are. This is so important today, when messages from others have been not just excluding but hostile.

My eldest is transgender. She is creative, passionate about justice, and as stubborn as I am.

My middle kiddo is non binary, asexual, and is headed to college. They are positive about making differences in the world.

My youngest is a gender nonconforming young man. He likes long hair and dress and identifies as he/him. He's a

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's

Storytelling Photovoice Program

ally to his siblings.



I love them all





BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025



Celebrating Pride
is important for many
reasons. Here's a few.

#1 Celebrating accomplishments
& progress. At SMC Pride,
the Police Department presence
is friendly. This was SO not
possible in the year of the Stonewall
riot! #2 So that adolescents,
as they navigate their gender & sexuality,
see that LGBTQIA+ doesn't have to
mean a closet.

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES





BHRS ODE PRIDE CELEBRATION 2025

Celebrating pride is important because we are a community with a rich history that deserves to be celebrated. We have existed as long as humanity has existed, and our stories are stories worth sharing. No amount of hate, anti-LGBTQ+ legislation, etc. will erase our history or community. Now more than ever we must be visible, both to LGBTQ-phobes, and to each other. We must show that we won't back down, and represent ourselves to the youth so that they know they deserve to be here, too. Pride can be a party, or it can be a riot. We are literally, a rainbow, of all colors, and metaphorically, a rainbow of lived experiences.

Celebrate queer joy, honor queer resistance, and remember queer history. There is no future without acknowledging our past.

keep fighting! keep being visible!
keep being yourself; no matter who pushes you down
keep getting back up.

Provided by BHRS' Office of Diversity and Equity's
Storytelling Photovoice Program →



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES

