

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF QUEER JOY



Dear OUT MetroWest Community,

This year we celebrated an incredible milestone: 15 years of OUT MetroWest! We have been cultivating Queer Joy since 2011, fostering community with thousands of LGBTQ+ youth and their families. We're grateful to be a hub for connection, belonging, and LGBTQ+ specific resources.

While this year has brought an increase of hateful rhetoric and discriminatory legislation, as well as a shifting economic and financial landscape, the OUT MetroWest community -- YOU -- have continued to show up and show OUT for trans and queer youth.

Together we have grown our youth and caregiver programs, increased access to material resources through our clothing closet and community pantry, and hit major funding goals through Trivia Night and individual contributions. We deepened our community partnerships by attending 75 events across our catchment area and partnering with other LGBTQ+ organizations and small business for OUT on the Block. Our 2026-2029 Strategic Plan launched early in 2026 and aims to ground our growth in youth voice and community need. The team is energized to take on our Five Strategic Outcomes, which you can read about below.

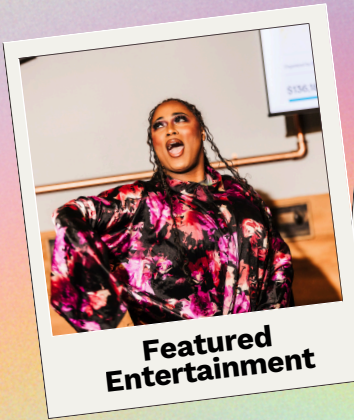
We're excited to celebrate the upcoming year of queer joy with you -- including the continued expansion of programs, and the debut of our first annual OUTspoken Art Show on Friday, January 29th!

Thank YOU for making OUT MetroWest all that we are, and all that we are yet to become.

Mel Pace (they/them)
(Pace pronounced pah-chay)
Executive Director



Come **OUT** & Celebrate *Gay-la!*



**Featured
Entertainment**

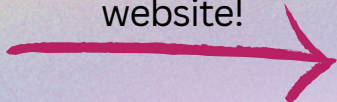


Queer Joy

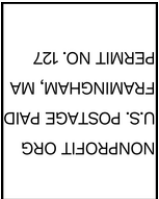
Come OUT & Celebrate with us on **Thursday, October 22nd!** Our annual Come OUT & Celebrate Gay-la is a celebration of our vibrant community, and a night of queer joy as we fundraise for the future of LGBTQ+ youth.

Tickets include a delicious **buffet dinner, featured entertainment, one drink ticket** (alcoholic or non), and the priceless knowledge that you are fostering communities where LGBTQ+ youth thrive. **We've sold out 5 years in a row, so get your tickets TODAY!** Early bird tickets are \$55 through September 10th.

Get tickets, commit your sponsorship, or secure ad space **HERE** or on our website!



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22ND
6:30-9PM AT JACK'S ABBY
IN FRAMINGHAM, MA



OUT
METROWEST
160 HOLLIS STREET
FRAMINGHAM, MA 01702
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

OUT METROWEST

Fostering communities where LGBTQ+ youth thrive

www.outmetrowest.org

info@outmetrowest.org

Year in Review

15th Anniversary Edition

July 2025-June 2026

'25-'26 YEAR IN REVIEW

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Program Growth

Umbrella, our weekly program for trans and non-binary youth in middle and high school has doubled in attendance since last July. We have added additional staff to support this growing need! We also launched Aurora, our NEW program for parents & caregivers of LGBTQ+ youth. This has set the tone for future intergenerational programming to come!

Celebrating Intersectionality

We revamped our 'Solidarity Moment', which begins each weekly program. Youth take the time to intentionally learn about the intersectionality between the LGBTQ+ community and additional identities that have been historically marginalized. Our Adult Advisors facilitate these conversations, and the youth particularly enjoyed recent discussions on pinkwashing and disability activism.

Youth Leadership & Advocacy

By centering youth voices, we ensure their ideas, experiences, and dreams guide our work. Two youth completed a full year on our Board of Directors, helping steer OUT MetroWest at its highest level. Youth also played a vital role in guiding our Strategic Plan by actively participating in planning sessions and offering feedback throughout the process.



*Fostering communities
where LGBTQ+ youth thrive.*

outmetrowest.org | @outmetrowest



Board Member running
the Boston Marathon



Gender-Affirming
Clothing Closet



Pride 2026



FUNDraising



Gay-la 2025

IMPACT REPORT

Direct Support & Resources

- Provided over 500 hours of FREE programming and special events for queer and trans youth, pre-k through age 29
- Served a record number of 385 unique youth, including 140 NEW youth
- Reached 58 youth at our Satellite Programs, strategically located at the furthest corners of our catchment area to reach isolated youth
- Attended 75 community events, including 27 Pride events
- Hosted 25 vendors and 350+ community members at OUT on the Block
- Offered hundreds of FREE meals, snacks, and personal hygiene items through our Community Pantry
- Distributed countless items of clothing, including gender-affirming shapewear and garments, via our Clothing Closet

Fundraising & Financial Support

- Supported by 310 NEW individual and corporate donors
- Received \$17,000+ from 66 recurring supporters who give monthly or quarterly as part of our 'Pride Year Round' Giving Circle
- Surpassed our Nerd OUT Trivia goal, totaling over \$34,000 - the biggest night of fundraising at a Trivia Night in fifteen years!
- OUT and Active Athletes raised \$20,000+ through the Falmouth Road Race and the Boston Marathon
- Secured over \$100,00 in critical grant funding from 12 grantors
- Launched the OUTlast Giving Circle for legacy gifts and bequests, featuring four inaugural donors

STRATEGIC PLAN: 5 OUTCOMES

At Gay-la 2025, we unveiled our updated Mission, Vision, and Values. Since then our team of youth, staff, board members, SOAR and Elevating Access consultants have finalized our 2026-2029 Strategic Plan, focused on the five outcomes listed below. You can read the full Strategic Plan in detail on our website!

Expand
Equitable
Access to
Supportive
Programs &
Supports

Advance
Organizational
Equity, Staffing
Capacity, &
Leadership

Grow Youth
Leadership &
Self-Agency
Pathways

Ensure
Financial
Resilience &
Funding
Sustainability

Deepen
Community
Engagement &
Advocacy