



AMERICAN RIVER COLLEGE PRIDE CENTER

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PRIDE CENTER MISSION

The ARC Pride Center supports a safe and inclusive campus environment for students, staff, faculty and community members by building an understanding of sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. The Pride Center is dedicated to addressing the issues that disadvantage LGBTQ people within education while also focusing on intersections between LGBTQ identities and other communities who have been underrepresented and disenfranchised. It also outreaches to schools and community agencies, challenges and dismantles negative stereotypes, and facilitates dialogue about marginalized orientations, gender identities, and intersex people.



PRIDE CENTER GOALS

The goals of the Pride Center are to:

- Assist LGBTQ+ students, faculty, and staff with any challenges they may have related to their gender or sexual identities
- Assess and strive to improve campus climate for LGBTQ+ people
- Educate the campus community on how to best serve LGBTQ+ students
- Create a supportive and developmental community environment for LGBTQ+ students

These goals will be accomplished through research, educational trainings, and direct services to students.



WHY A PRIDE CENTER; RETENTION

33% of gay and lesbian students and 38% of transgender students seriously considered transferring because of the hostile climates on their campuses.

Rankin, S, Weber, G, Blumenfeld, W, & Frazer, S. (2010). *2010 State of higher education: For lesbian, gay, bisexual & transgender people*. Charlotte, NC: Campus Pride.

WHY A PRIDE CENTER: HARASSMENT

- 21% of LGBT students were harassed on their college campus
- 42% of transgender students feared for their safety

Rankin, S, Weber, G, Blumenfeld, W, & Frazer, S. (2010). *2010 State of higher education: For lesbian, gay, bisexual & transgender people*. Charlotte, NC: Campus Pride.

WHY A PRIDE CENTER: MENTAL HEALTH

- LGBTQ individuals are almost 3 times more likely than others to experience severe depression or generalized anxiety disorder

(National Alliance on Mental Illness)

- 29% of LGBT youth have attempted suicide, compared to only 6% of heterosexual youth

(Center for Disease Control)



WHY A PRIDE CENTER: HOMELESSNESS

- LGBT youth are more than twice as likely to become homeless due to hostile living environments or being kicked out because of their identity
- In 2017 Sacramento saw a 30% increase in youth LGBTQ+ homelessness



PRIDE CENTER PROGRESS

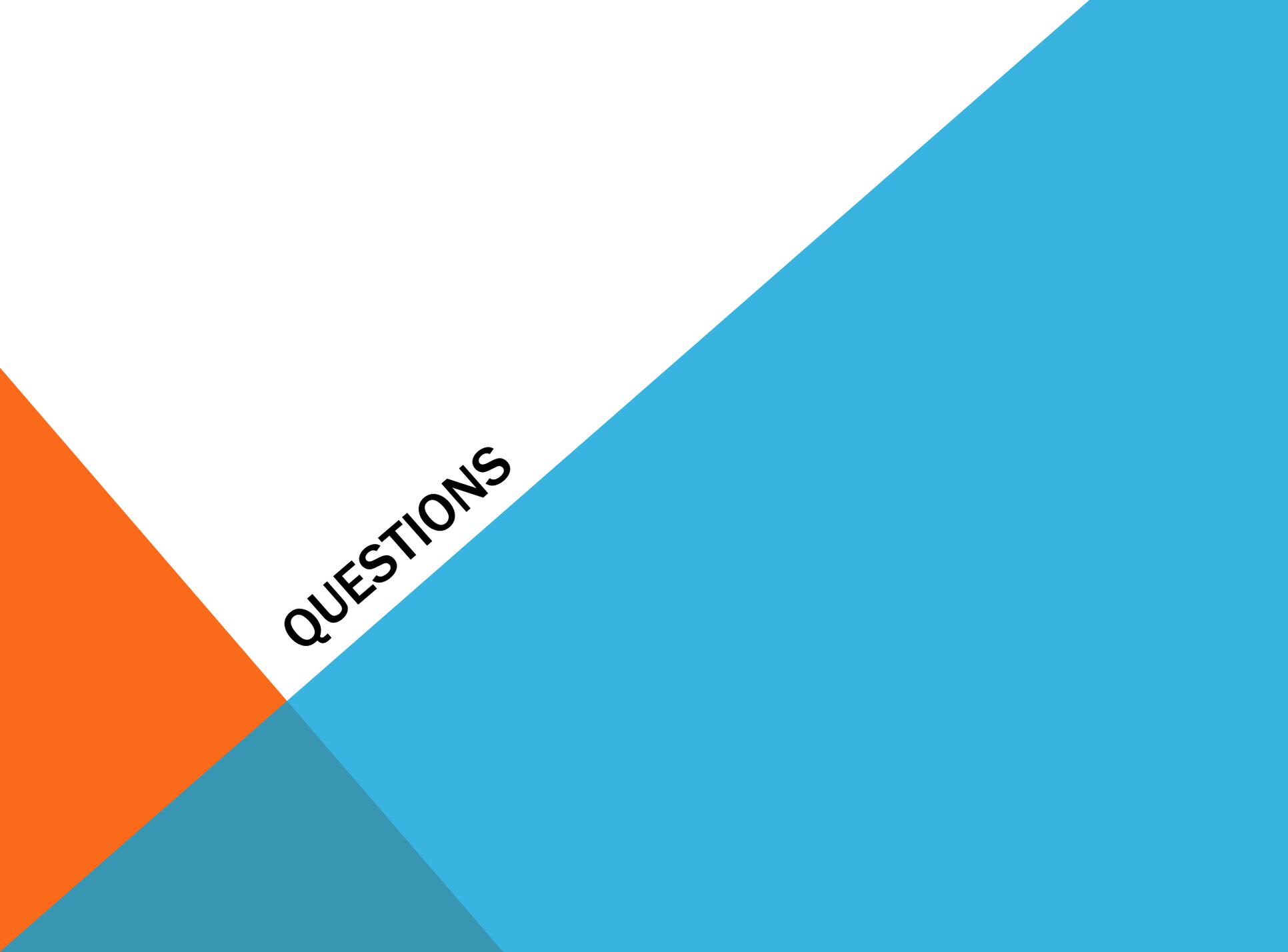
- Designated space with a faculty coordinator, student worker, and very shortly a classified staff member.
 - Training and development for faculty and staff.
 - Changed student records system to include Preferred (Chosen) name.
 - Identified a designated person to manage the complaint process for those experiencing harassment and discrimination based on LGBTQ+ status.
 - Hosted regular social, educational, and community building events.
 - High School Outreach including establishing relationships with San Juan District level Administrators and will be partnering with Sacramento Pride Festival.
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INAUGURAL LAVENDER GRADUATION



NEXT STEPS

- Gathering more data to be more effective
 - Conducting a Campus Wide Climate
 - Attempting to get access to our current data of LGBT students
 - Continued Training of faculty and staff. We want every employee trained on the basic knowledge and skills to serve LGBTQ students.
 - Developing and funding scholarships both for outstanding LGBTQ+ students and those in crises
 - Continue to ensure our infrastructures meet the needs of transgender students
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QUESTIONS