

# CROSSPORT *InnerView*

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## Crossport Schedule of Events

The Monthly Schedule of Events for Crossport for April and May are as follows:

First Friday Karaoke, Fri. May 3, 9:00 pm, Tostados  
 May Board meeting, Tue. May 7, 7:00 pm, Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church  
 Second Saturday, Sat. May 11, 7:00 pm, Boswell's  
 Transgender Peer Support, Mon. May 13, 7:30 pm, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church  
 Thursday Dinner, Thur. May 16, 7:00 pm, Mokka in Newport then Social at The Crazy Fox  
 Saturday Night Out, Sat. May 25, 7:00 pm, TBD (see Facebook or website)  
 Transgender Peer Support, Mon. May 27, 7:30 pm, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church

June Board meeting, Tue. Jun 4, 7:00 pm, Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church  
 First Friday Karaoke, Fri. Jun 7, 9:00 pm, Tostados  
 Second Saturday, Sat. Jun 8, 7:00 pm, Boswell's  
**Northern Kentucky Pride Sun. Jun 9**  
 Transgender Peer Support, Mon. Jun 10, 7:30 pm, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church  
**Veterans Admin. Pride, Wed. Jun 13**  
 Thursday Dinner, Thur. Jun 20, 7:00 pm, Mokka in Newport then Social at The Crazy Fox  
**Cincinnati Pride, Sat. Jun 22, 12:00 pm, Sawyer Point, Cincinnati**  
 Saturday Night Out, Sat. Jun 22, 7:00 pm, TBD (see Facebook or website)  
 Transgender Peer Support, Mon. Jun 24, 7:30 pm, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church

Other TG Support meetings may also involve a theme or speaker. Stay in touch with our website and Facebook for the latest changes. Suggestions for themes, venues and events are always welcome.

**Crossport.org is posting additional meetings by other Trans- related groups. Please check out the website for more information**

If you have questions or comments on meeting locations or times, contact Crossport at 513-344-0116 or at CrossportCincy@yahoo.com or post them on the CrossportCincy Facebook group

### NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

#### Kicking My Heels Up

Every now and then, you just need to get out and enjoy yourself and the company of your friends. This month's note is not one of those introspective philosophical pieces, just a bit of fluff about the joy of getting out.

As the fourth Saturday of the month for March approached, I was a little disappointed. It had been a couple of months since my last outing, and the way timing in my life has been, the first real opportunity would coincide. But for a lot of other Crossport members the third Saturday had sort of supplanted the fourth. Our friend Jennifer Kennedy was going to be in town and then trek off with Stacy to Keystone. Stacy figured that it would be great to give Jen a warm welcome by the Cincinnati crowd, and did the hospitable gesture of inviting everyone out a week early. Unfortunately for me, the stars were not aligned.

But THEN I saw that Jeanne was going to have a Fine birthday celebration in OTR. Oh, Happy Day! What a great opportunity to see everyone, and especially to give Jeanne warm wishes. As many of you know she had recently been in major surgery after she and her SO got back from an epic European visit. I hadn't had a chance to see her since, so her birthday would be Perfect.... Except it was earlier in the day than I was thinking and couldn't make that either. Darn it, Jeanne, a thousand apologies and a virtual hug.

Fortunately, Cathy saw my plight and took pity on me. I used to google to find a place in OTR that was supposedly LBGT friendly, still hoping to catch a glimpse of Jeanne before her party was done. We arranged to go out and spread the word via Facebook. It turned out that the timing wouldn't work, and the place I picked had a big NCAA thing going on. So, at the last minute we changed the place to trusty old Boswell's in Northside. That would be great, since it's typically not overcrowded on a Saturday night.

When I got to Boswell's, the place was jamming to a local trio playing hits from the 70's. I was lucky to find a couple of seats up at the bar, but no tables were open, and it was just a bit nippy outside. I sat at the bar and ordered a beer, keeping an eye out for Crossport compatriots. The beer helped calm me down from the rush of getting ready and finding a parking spot in a less familiar part of town. As I sat on the stool, I let my hand smooth out my wool skirt, and enjoyed the sensation as my hand passed across

my hose clad leg. As I was waiting, I engaged in a little conversation with the staff. The waitress was sweet and complimented my eyebrows, asking me how I did them. I enjoyed the music, remembering a long-ago past playing some of the numbers in their set.

After a short while, Nancy showed up. I hadn't meet Nancy before, but she came in and searched the area, finding me. While I believe that both Nancy and I presented very well that evening, we both recognized a sister, especially since we were looking. I introduced myself and moved my coat from the chair next to mine. We got a chance to get acquainted, and before long, Erica, Cathy and Mick sauntered in. They joined me hovering over at the corner of the bar, and we ordered drinks and a couple of bites to eat. Eventually Cathy saw a table open and grabbed the opportunity to stake a claim. Shortly after, the next table cleared, and I deftly relocated the Hummus and Potato skins to the new homestead.

We enjoyed the music, food and banter. After a couple of drinks, and the snacks, I decided to freshen up my lipstick. I confirmed that the "ladies" was in bounds for the establishment and made my way to take a powder. The facility was cozy to say the least, and I did my best to not monopolize the mirror as I retouched by lips. A lady came in and complimented my boots. I thanked her, and told her they were my most comfortable shoes, despite the 3.5" heel. Upon returning to the table, a couple of ladies next to us



complimented our ensemble and asked us if we would like to be photographed. The band had finished one set, and was getting ready to start another, so I figured that it would be good timing to motivate to our next destination. C & D café had advertised a pajama party 80's dance night. Even though none of us were appropriately costumed (or is that inappropriately dressed?) it still sounded like fun.

Nancy was done for the evening and decided to opt out. We wished her well and the four of us

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trooped off, over a couple of blocks this way and a couple more that way. Located in a very residential part of Northside, C & D is really a house converted into a bar. Suspiciously quiet and practically empty when we arrived, we checked with the bartender to make sure we were in the right place at the right time. Sure enough, most of the small crowd was outside having a smoke. Cathy, Erika and I proceeded to the backroom that doubled as the billiard hall or dance floor, depending on the night. Mick went in search of his lady friend, who he found and came back to join us.

The pool table had been moved and set up as the DJ booth. The DJ was playing rock and dance hits from the 80's and 90's. Well we had come to a dance party, so I figured I ought to get out there and dance. Dance I did! The DJ had a great selection, which took us old folk back to our glory days. The DJ even played a Stray Cats tune for me!

Now I tend to be pretty energetic when I dance, and quite literally kick up my heels. Given the 3.5" height, and my poor ankle, I was still pretty careful to not twist anything. With the music rocking and Crossport moving, the crowd naturally filtered back in. Several other barflies, a younger crowd, joined in. We had a blast, and even tried some tricky, perhaps poorly executed partner dancing. Partner dancing was a little funny, since leading and following tend to revert to experience, if you can imagine.

After several rather quick paced numbers, I was getting winded. Between the dancing, earlier dinner, a couple of drinks, my heels, and my corset, I needed a break and some water. Cathy told me that when dressed, one of the ideas was to NOT sweat. It didn't matter much though, I was glistening, but never really melted down. I stuck around dancing, and taking a break here and there till about Midnight. By then, tape was pulling, my blouse was damp, and my toes were rubbing in my boots (Note to self: Socks, even with hose. No one will see but may save a blister). With the strike of the clock, it was time for this Cinderella to head back home.

Now I always tell everyone how comfortable my boots are and how easy they are to walk in. That's entirely true, but after that much dancing, and not wearing socks, I will also tell you that was a long walk back to Boswell's where I parked the truck. Not just in the feet and calves, but my thighs were even feeling the burn. Want to get into shape? Go dancing with Crossport! I drove home and parked on the driveway. As I exited the truck and went up to the door, I aeriated the lawn with my heels. My wife greeted me from the couch, and I quickly and respectfully, went upstairs to deconstruct.

Your Editor,  
Meghan Fournoit

**Letter to the Editor:**

I met a great FTM person at one of our picnics several years ago.

He was from Lexington and we shared a one hour conversation.

We discovered that we had a lot in common.

Every night she prayed that when she awakened that her body would be male. I was going the FTM direction.

Neither of us were granted our wishes which should not of course be granted.

As Lady Gaga said in "Born This Way" , God doesn't make mistakes we were born this way for a reason even though we do not understand the purpose. So be yourself and be proud of who you are.

He brought strawberries from home but I wish that we had exchanged e-mail addresses.

I described the 30 year old male to the other members at Crossport, but no one saw a person matching that age at the picnic.

So much can be learned and understood by this type of exchange.

Be proud of who you are!

-Kathy Shriver

**Happy Birthday!**

Aggie S.	Teri M.	Lynne H.
Cynthia B.	Kelly G.	Jane L.
Kara B.	Valerie J.	Rachel L.
	Lythier	

If you would like to be added to our list, please send the month and date of your birthday along with your name to: [Crossportcincy@yahoo.com](mailto:Crossportcincy@yahoo.com).

## CrossPort Board Meeting Minutes

April 2nd, 2019

Cathy was the meeting Facilitator.

Board members present: Stacy, Laura Ann, Callie, Wendy, Cathy, Jill

Board members absent: Jean

Guests present: Erik, Brittany

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

### Old Business:

Callie submitted the Minutes from the March 5th meeting. They were accepted.

**Transgender Day of Visibility** had close to 250 attendees and 14 organizations were represented. Crossport paid a total of \$1528.28 towards the event, with \$1053.32 to be paid back by other organizations. As of April 1st, \$430.00 has been paid back.

**Clothing Swap** joint event with Heartland Transgender Wellness will be on Friday, April 12th from 7-10 pm.

**Cincinnati Pride** will be on June 22. Stacy and Callie will take lead on organizing. Will use Signup Genius to recruit volunteers.

**CrossPort Picnic** will be on July 27. Discussed how to provide food for the event. Discussed a potential taco bar and the financing thereof. Callie will make a budget.

### New Business:

**VA Pride:** Will be offsite from the VA, and may be between NKY & Cincy Pride

### Monthly Reports:

**PO Box:** Stacy submitted a report to the board. Several membership renewals and junk mail received.

**Hotline Phone.** Stacy submitted a report to the board. Several calls regarding who and what crossport is and what services are provided were fielded.

**Membership.** Cathy submitted a report to the board. Cathy sent reminders to the March expiring members and posted a request for memberships on CrossPortCincy. As of this Board Meeting, CrossPort has 39 members, 11 of who are carryovers from 2018.

**Finances.** Cathy submitted a report to the board. CrossPort currently has \$1182.21.

**CrossPort Website and Social Media.** Cathy submitted a report to the board. Posts from Crossport Cincinnati reached 1.0k people. The CrossportCincy Facebook group has 200 members, 163 of which are active. The website Crossport.org had 1,106 unique page views from 375 distinct IPs.

**Email Correspondence.** Cathy submitted a report to the board.

- 14 emails received; of note:
- 3 notifications of paid membership fees through PayPal
- 1 notification that Sheer Necessities had purchased 12-month business card sized ad in Innerview
- Received 2 emails asking whether we would like a booth at the VA Military Sexual Trauma event.

**CD/TS Peer Support Group.** Stacy submitted a report to the board. New members, new people and regulars mean conversation topics have been productive and strong.

**First Friday Social.** Stacy submitted a report to the board. 15 individuals were present including several transmasculine individuals.

**Second Saturday Social.** Stacy submitted a report to the board. Organized by Stacy. 13 individuals were present.

**Third Thursday Night Social.** Stacy submitted a report to the board. 11 individuals were present.

**Saturday Night Out.** Stacy submitted a report to the board. 5 individuals went to Boswells.

**Library.** Jill submitted a report. A movie that was out on loan was returned.

**Outreach.** Cathy submitted a report to the board. Some progress has been made on the 501(c)(3). Corporate filing has been completed and signed.

**Newsletter.** Cathy submitted a report to the board. The March newsletter was emailed to 334 email addresses on March 1st. No bounces, no unsubscribes.

- 125 unique emails had been opened (37.4%) an increase of 20 from the previous report, and 95 had clicked through to access the InnerView (28.4%), an increase of 25 from the previous report. 0 had clicked through to the CrossPort Cincinnati FB page, 0 had clicked through to CrossPort.org.

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- On March 29, 2019, a link was emailed to 339 email addresses. 325 emails were delivered, there were 14 bounces and 3 unsubscribes. Of the 14 bounces, 13 were hard bounces from yahoo.com that had not been accessed in over a year. One was a soft bounce from Roketmail.com. Two unsubscribes were “No Longer Interested” while the third didn’t give a reason. Mailchimp reported that as of April 2nd, 2019:
- 105 unique emails had been opened (34.2%), and 69 had clicked through to access the InnerView

(21.5%). 1 had clicked through to the CrossPort Cincinnati FB page, 1 had clicked through to CrossPort.org.

- Between March 1st and March 30th, we lost 16 emails, 8 were added. Total number of subscribers is 325. 7 subscribed through CrossPort Cincinnati, one was added via email

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm. The board agreed that Cathy would facilitate the May meeting.

## My Student on the Roof

-Dr. Paul Street

*EDITORS NOTE: This article appeared in the Spring 2019 edition of The University Of Dayton Magazine. This periodical is published quarterly by the University of Dayton and distributed primarily to U.D. Alumni. I found this to be an interesting article from an outside looking in view. Beside noticing some coincidences with my own background, two other observations stuck out. First, the fact that a Catholic university would publish an article that suggests alliance and support for the TG community is very encouraging. Second, just as encouraging is to know that, when confronted with the reality of TG people, new understanding and acceptance from those outside our community could possibly be more likely than we often fear.*

*I specifically contacted Dr. Street to ask permission to reprint the article, which he graciously agreed to. I also asked for his thoughts on the subject matter, which may appear in a following article.*

Recently a Senate committee intent on confirming a Supreme Court Justice grilled a professor about a drunken assault that’s haunted her for decades. If she was as truthful as she seemed, why could she remember some parts so vividly but blank on others? Thank heavens nobody’s interrogating me, because I, too, have an emotion-saturated night I will never forget, even if chunks have vanished over the years. It began with words I recall exactly. “Dr. Street, Donnie’s on the roof of Dalarna Hall. You have to come talk him down. He really respects you.”

I remember my stomach clenching and a feeling of unreality, but I don’t recall who broke the news. The small college’s only counselor? One of my students? I can’t even say for certain how I got there. I lived two blocks from campus. Did I run? Or did I drive, clutching the wheel with my knuckles white? Sorry, not a clue. I do remember wondering if I’d have to climb out on a ledge. Heights bother me.

Though I’m unsure how I got there, etched in my brain is the gut-wrenching sight of my student dancing and lurching on a slanted rooftop, two-and-a-half stories up. Donnie was eerily silhouetted against the night sky by a nearby streetlight. A crowd of students had gathered. Nobody encouraged him to jump. The only voice I remember is Donnie’s.

“Everybody was Kung Fu fighting,” Donnie sang, weaving and halting on the steep-pitched roof to show off drunken Kung Fu moves. “Woo-hoo!” I gasped along with the students as he lurched to maintain his balance on the shingles. “Woo-hoo!”

Donnie was trying hard to give the impression he was having fun, but his “woo-hoo” was the saddest cry I’ve ever heard leave a human throat. “Woo-hoo!” he called, spinning and nearly falling. “Woo-hoooooo!”

The young person kicking and cavorting on the roof was my piano student in his last semester of Senior year. Talented and fun, he had the only Southern accent in my studio. “Woo-hoooooo!,” he wailed into the crisp night air. “Everybody was Kung Fu fighting....”

A few weeks before, our college counselor visited me. “Donnie wants you to know something important, but he’s shy to tell you,” she began. “He admires you so much and you’re the one professor he really trusts.”

Flattered, I smiled, certain I already knew. Though Donnie had a girlfriend glued to his side, in a recent lesson I’d noticed a touch of mascara around his lashes, and even a hint of eye-shadow that didn’t fit his masculine look. Lanky and muscular, he studied Kung Fu. The counselor was going to tell me he was gay, I was sure. This would be easy.

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“Donnie’s started hormone treatments to help transition to a woman,” she said. “Donnie’s felt female since childhood.” My jaw dropped.

The floodgates opened at our next lesson. Donnie’s family had no inkling, and it would be difficult. Indeed, there were challenges from the start. After seeing me perform in concert Donnie had to plead hard to come study with me, since the college where I taught was outside their shuttered fundamentalist world. To complicate things further, Donnie liked women. “I think I might be Lesbian,” he confided. Excuse me, SHE confided. This would take some rethinking on my part, and pronouns were an important part of it.

“What can I do to help?,” I asked.

“Treat me like the other girls in your studio,” Donnie beamed. “That’d help so much!”

“How’s that?,” I asked. “I think I treat everybody the same.”

“You could say things like, ‘You look so pretty today, Donnie, and your blouse fits you sooooo well!’”

## Trump poised to roll back transgender health protections

By Nathaniel Weixel - 04/23/19 06:00 AM EDT

<https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/440108-trump-poised-to-roll-back-transgender-health-protections>

The Trump administration appears ready to roll back health care protections for transgender people, and advocates are gearing up for a fight.

A proposed rule from the Department of Health and Human Services that’s expected in the coming days would make it easier for doctors, hospitals and insurance companies to deny care or coverage to transgender patients, as well as women who have had abortions.

Coming on the heels of the military transgender ban, there are fears the administration could go even further and use the proposal as an opportunity to narrow the definition of gender.

“But that’s almost sexual harassment,” I protested. “I wouldn’t say that to any student.” This was the 80’s -- transgender issues were uncharted for most of us, but harassment made our radar. Our intense hour of revelation was eye-opening for me. She’d felt that way since early childhood and only dared confide in anyone at the age of 22. It’s a long time to carry a secret, and I think music was part of Donnie’s way of coping with it.

Though I clearly remember that heart-to-heart lesson, I recall little of how I talked Donnie down from the dorm roof. What sticks indelibly is the electric instant my student recognized me on the ground below, and my awkward opening. “Hey, Donnie, what’s up?,” I called.

The rest of what I ad-libbed is lost. I’m sure it wasn’t profound. But somehow it worked, and I didn’t have to climb out on a ledge. After a heart-stopping minute, Donnie came down. And no, I don’t remember if we hugged, or who cried. I’m sorry, Senators, I can’t supply the date, but I was wearing a brand-new cable-knit sweater so it must’ve been early spring. I don’t recall how I got home, either. It wasn’t far. But the crucial parts of that night are burned into me.

One unimportant thing sticks, too - I gave away that new sweater after one wearing. There’s only so much I need to remember. Thank you, Senators.

The administration hinted in a recent court filing that new health regulations could be published as soon as next week. The rule is expected to weaken or eliminate an anti-discrimination provision enshrined in ObamaCare.

The provision says patients cannot be turned away because they are transgender, nor can they be denied coverage if they need a service that’s related to their transgender status.

Religious providers say they expect the administration’s rule to reinforce their right not to provide treatment that is against their beliefs.

Advocates, meanwhile, say they are concerned that the proposal could jeopardize the gains made in making sure transgender individuals receive equal access to care.

The proposal is “likely to send an even stronger signal that the administration endorses discrimination in health care against transgender people,” said Harper

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Jean Tobin, director of policy at the National Center for Transgender Equality.

The rule “won’t mean that overnight transgender people can’t get health care, but it will be a steady drip of allowing more discrimination,” Tobin said.

Chase Strangio, an attorney at the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), said access to health care can be a life or death circumstance, and the rule could have “catastrophic effects” if it is finalized.

“To have the government take a stand in favor of discrimination is deeply upsetting,” Strangio said.

Once the proposal is released, a public comment period will follow. After that, a final rule will be issued. As for what comes next, Strangio said ACLU has had two years to prepare for that.

“If the final rule looks like the proposal we are anticipating, we and our partners will file suit as soon as possible,” Strangio said. “We can expect many legal challenges to any final rule.”

President Trump repeatedly pledged support for the LGBTQ community on the campaign trail in 2016. But advocates say the president’s words increasingly ring hollow, and his administration has been steadily eroding protections for transgender individuals.

For example, the military’s transgender ban took effect earlier this month, despite objections from advocacy groups and medical experts. And the Supreme Court on Monday said it would this year on three cases concerning whether federal law applies to transgender identity.

Additionally, the Justice Department has argued that the main federal civil rights law doesn’t protect employees from discrimination based on gender identity. Former Attorney General in 2017 wrote a memo saying the law “does not encompass discrimination based on gender identity per se.”

The existing health care rule was first issued in 2016, six years after the 2010 Affordable Care was signed into law. The rule prohibited providers and insurers who receive federal money from denying treatment or coverage to anyone based on sex, gender identity or termination of pregnancy. It also required doctors and hospitals to provide “medically necessary” services to transgender individuals, as long as those services were the same ones provided to other patients.

That rule was challenged in court by a group of Christian providers called the Franciscan Alliance. They argued the rule forces insurers to pay for abortions and compels doctors to perform gender transition services, even if they disagree with those services on moral or medical grounds.

A federal judge in Texas agreed with that argument,

issuing a nationwide injunction in late 2016 that is still in effect. The ruling said Congress had outlawed discrimination based on “the biological differences between males and females” but not transgender status.

The new proposed rule has been under review at the White House Office of Management and Budget for more than a year, something that experts say is highly unusual.

That delay is causing confusion in the health care industry: ObamaCare’s non-discrimination statute is the law, even if a rule implementing it has been put on hold.

In a court filing earlier this month, the administration said it would be publishing the proposal soon, a move that would likely affect the lawsuit in Texas.

Luke Goodrich, senior counsel with the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty and a lead attorney for the plaintiffs, said providers would be better served by a ruling from the judge. He said they just want to make sure their religious protections are upheld.

Katie Keith, a health care consultant and professor at Georgetown Law, said, “It’s going to be really hard for people to understand their rights in health care” while the confusion continues.

Tobin, of the National Center for Transgender Equality, said the uncertainty is having a harmful effect. “At a time when the administration is trying to overturn the entire Affordable Care Act, at a time when the transgender ban in military is taking effect, transgender people are scared for their ability to get the health care they need, and that their providers know they need,” Tobin said.

Goodrich argues that providers won’t turn away patients just because they are transgender, so long as the doctors aren’t giving transition related care or “being pressured to perform abortions.”

He said the plaintiffs have been treating transgender people for years and “won’t stop doing that, because they provide care for everyone. That’s not what the lawsuit is about in our view.”

Transgender advocates are concerned the administration will use the lawsuit as an excuse to redefine gender. The New York Times last year reported that the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) proposed in a memo that government agencies adopt a in a way that would essentially end federal recognition of transgender individuals.

No rules have been issued, but advocates say administration officials have been telegraphing their views.

The HHS memo is a “blueprint” for discrimination, and the nondiscrimination proposal is a major part of it, Tobin said.

## Equitas Health is Coming to Cincinnati

-Cathy Allison

On April 11, I attended a meeting hosted at Central Clinic with nine other representatives of the Cincinnati transgender community to learn about Equitas Health and their plans to open a new clinic in Cincinnati. Representing Equitas were Dr. Chad Braun, Chief Medical Officer, Equitas Health, Carol Zimmer Clark, Publisher of Prizm magazine & Director of Community Affairs, Equitas Health, Julia Applegate, Director, Equitas Health Institute for LGBTQ Health Equity and Dominic Ali, Community Engagement Manager, Equitas Health Institute for LGBTQ Health Equity.

Equitas Health is a regional not-for-profit community-based healthcare system and federally qualified community health center look-alike. Its expanded mission has made it one of the nation's largest HIV/AIDS, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer/questioning (LGBTQ) healthcare organizations. With 17 offices in 11 cities, it serves more than 67,000 individuals in Ohio, Kentucky, and West Virginia each year through its diverse healthcare and social service delivery system focused around: primary and specialized medical care, retail pharmacy, dental, behavioral health, HIV/STI prevention, advocacy, and community health initiatives.

Equitas got its start in 1984 as a group of then-separate organizations trying to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS. Between that time and 2011, the following organizations merged together to become what is now Equitas Health: AIDS Resource Center Ohio, AIDS Foundation of Dayton, Dayton Area AIDS Task Force, AIDS Foundation Miami Valley, Columbus AIDS Task Force, Metropolitan Residential Services, David's House of Compassion and Ohio AIDS Coalition. They currently have 17 offices around the

state and operate two clinics in Columbus and one in Dayton.

At the meeting, it was announced that Equitas Health would open their fourth full service clinic in Cincinnati on Glibert Avenue late summer 2019. But what does that mean for the transgender community?

Equitas clinics are based on a Patient-Centered Medical Home model. This is a care delivery model whereby patient treatment is coordinated through their primary care physician to ensure they receive the necessary care when and where they need it, in a manner they can understand. Therefore, under one roof, a patient could get primary care, specialized HIV care, behavioral health care, HIV health navigation and care coordination, HIV & STI testing and treatment, dental services, treatment adherence and pharmacy access.

Additionally, because Equitas clinics operate as federally qualified community health center look-alikes, services are based on a sliding-fee scale, something that is very important to people with little income and/or no health insurance. A patient makes an appointment, goes to the clinic which gathers information as to household income, size of household and housing situation. The patient then meets with a staff member who will help determine if the patient qualifies for a sliding fee scale, grant funding, Medicaid/Chip. Medicare or marketplace. After that determination, the patient then knows what they will have to pay for their health care services.

From having zero transgender and non-conforming patients at the beginning of 2012, Equitas now has over 1000, all the while optimizing care to improve access for these patients. Their health model for gender affirming care includes access, a safe space, being patient centered, using informed consent for HRT, shared decision making which includes the patient's goals of care, and palliative care.

## Cathy's Corner

-Cathy Allison

Wow, what a busy month since the last newsletter.

It started with the Transgender Day of Visibility, March 31 on Fountain Square. Even though we only had four weeks to put it together, we had 14 organizations show up and almost 250 people came through. The Fountain Square venue was very nice (and VERY visible!) but the weather certainly did not cooperate like it did in 2017. The temperature only got to 38 and the wind was so strong it tipped GLSEN's tent, even though it was



sandbagged. Next year I am hoping we can hold TDoV indoors.

The first Saturday in April, Aggie Sands and I went to the Steampunk Salon at Molly Malone's in Covington, in appropriate costumes of course. We had a really good time. The folks there were quite nice and encouraged us to come back.

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April 11 was a meeting between members of the transgender community and Equitas Health (see the article "Equitas Health is Coming to Cincinnati" on page 8).

April 12 was the combined Heartland and Crossport Spring Clothing Swap. There was a lot of stuff to choose from, but only ten people took advantage of it. They made out like bandits. The next one will be in October.

For Second Saturday, Stacy, Nancy, Karla, Laurie and I met for dinner at Boswell's. Karla headed home while the rest of us went to the "Confessions on the Runway" fashion show at Urban Artifact hosted by HRC Cincinnati. It was not your mother's fashion show as all the models were members of the LGBTQIA community. Arykah Carter and Stephanie McQueary were both in the show and everyone got a "Swag Bag" of goodies.



On April 18 I went to another HRC event, this time on the 21<sup>st</sup> floor of Macy's corporate headquarters downtown. This was a half day workshop on "Non-Binary and Transgender Topics in the Workplace". Presenters were Beck Baily of HRC, Lauren Duncan who was the first person to transition on the job at GE Aviation, Arykah Carter representing TransOhio and Erica Stembbridge from Equality Ohio.

It was an excellent workshop and I met several allies in the cis community as well as new friends in the trans community. More information for employers seeking to be more inclusive can be found at <https://www.hrc.org/campaigns/trans-toolkit>

Later that evening was the Third Thursday Social at Mokka in Newport. It was a small group, only 12, but we were joined for the first time by Brandon Williams and Shane McKee, both from Cincinnati Allied Transgender Support.

There was one thing that happened when I

first arrived at Macy's Corporate that we all run into now and again when your gender presentation does not match your legal documents. I checked in and received and put on my name badge for the event. When I went to the security gate, the guard asked for my driver license. Since my license has a male picture and name on it, I told her that the info on it wouldn't match what she had on her paperwork but handed it to her anyway. She looked at it and looked at me and got really confused, and it didn't make it any better when that name wasn't on her paperwork. Then she said she couldn't find "Cathy Allison" on her paperwork either. Finally she just let me pass through because I already had a name badge.



After the event was over, I told this story to Lauren and a couple other people. One of them happened to be the Macy's person that organized the event. She got very upset because (at least for this event), if you have a name badge, security isn't supposed to ask for an ID. She started apologizing profusely and broke into tears that I had been humiliated in that way. I explained to her that it comes with the territory and that I didn't take it personally. Long story short, we are now Facebook buddies.

I finally got to meet Tina Stire on April 23. We connected on FaceBook back in November 2017, but this was the first time our schedules synced up. We met for lunch at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse at Tri-County Mall, then went shopping at Macy's. Macy's has several "Last Act" sections in each store where everything is marked down 70-80%. I didn't find anything this time, but Tina got a nice top for less than ten dollars.

Speaking of meeting people, Laurie and I were sharing food and drinks during happy hour at a place near Kenwood Mall where we met Rob Sibcy of Sibcy-Cline Realty. He is quite a nice man and ended up telling us about Living with Change and how that organization is helping the trans kids at Children's Hospital. I was impressed he was that trans-aware.

My last item is that the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County is having a series of workshops on developing a facility master plan to determine how the library can best serve the residents of Hamilton County. They extended an invitation to the transgender community to participate in the process. The first workshop is April 30 so I will not be able to tell you about it until next issue .

# PRIDE 2019!

-Meghan Fournoit

While this is the May newsletter, and Pride is not until June, it is not too early to start planning for the events. This is the 46th year in a row that Cincinnati has had a Pride event. Over the years Pride has changed from a simple parade to a week-long cavalcade of events. The parade is still the main event, followed by a festival in Sawyer Point. Last years festival attracted over 120,000 participants.

Crossport sets up a booth at the Cincinnati festival, and is planning on supporting several other Pride events this year. This year Crossport plans on having a presence in four events, official or otherwise. Northern Kentucky (Covington) is on June 9. The Cincinnati Veterans Administration Pride Fair is scheduled for Wednesday, June 13. The Cincinnati (Regional) Pride Parade and Festival is scheduled for Saturday, June 22. Lawrenceburg Indiana Pride Festival and Parade is scheduled for Sunday, June 30 from 12:00-4:00 pm. Other area festivals and parades include Dayton,



June 1, Columbus June 14 & 15, Lexington June 28 & 29.

Crossport typically has a booth with a table for educational literature which needs to be staffed. Booth attendants should be able to answer some basic questions about Crossport activities and point to support resources. Set up is not overly complicated including setting up a couple of folding tables and chairs, and for outside locations setting up a pop-up canopy. Outdoor locations can also get quite windy, so keeping literature from flying away can be a challenge. Depending on the venue, a cooler with drinks and snacks may be present. Moving all of the equipment may also take some effort.

As I mentioned last year, plan for both weather and location. An umbrella or rain gear may be a good idea. Sensible shoes to change into is also a good idea. Make sure that you are prepared for the sun. Even on an overcast day, you can easily burn, so sunscreen and appropriate clothing may help. And remember if you are not careful, you may well end up with tan lines that you may not want to explain!



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## Ode to Blendy Girl

-Meghan Fournoit

I think it was Labor day weekend, 2015. I was out at a craft beer and food truck event in West Chester. Accompanied by my wife and friends, I noticed in the crowd a youthful "sister" in attendance along with her friends. I tried to catch her eye, with the hope of saying hello, to no avail. Who knows, this may have been you? Anyway it inspired a poem that I posted in cross-dressers.com. I hope you enjoy!

Oh blendy girl, blendy girl  
 Where for art thou blendy girl?  
 I haft seen thee on the mall,  
 Just a little bit too tall,  
 Legs as smooth as mine,  
 Pale and lithe lines so fine.  
 Auburn hair long and full  
 Covered face, obstructed view  
 I wait to catch your gaze tonight  
 But you slip out of sight  
 should I comment on your shoes  
 Divulge myself, what's to lose  
 But I'm in stealth with my friends  
 I know how the evening ends  
 Oh so close but never near  
 Guess I'll just have another beer

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**Crossport Social Meeting**

The social is held on the *third Thursday of each month at 7:30pm* at a local restaurant (currently Mokka) and its purpose is to provide an opportunity for all transgender individuals to get out and socialize at a safe environment. Following dinner is a gathering at The Crazy Fox, Newport, an LGBT friendly bar that is used to TG patrons.

**Combined Peer Support Meeting**

Meets 7:30pm on the second and fourth Mondays of each month Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church. The meeting, which focuses on female-to-male and male-to-female transition as well as crossdressing issues, and living your authentic gender identity, offers an opportunity to network in a supportive forum.

**Crossport Board Meeting**

The board typically meets on the *first Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm*, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church, to discuss club matters. All members are welcome to attend.

**Crossport Saturday Night Out**

This is an evening out at a local nightclub. It is tentatively scheduled for the *fourth Saturday* evenings of each month. The time and location of this event will change with each occurrence.

**Crossport Second Saturday Social**

This is an evening out at a local dining establishment. Similar to Third Thursday, but for those of us who can't get out during the week. It is scheduled for the *second Saturday* evenings of each month. Held at Boswell's in Cincinnati's Northside neighborhood, dinner is at 7:00.

**Karaoke Friday Nights**

The *first Friday* of the month Crossport meets for a social engagement to share fellowship, music and merriment at a Tostado's, dinner at 7:00pm and music at 9:00pm Spouses, Significant Others (S O's), and family are also welcome and encouraged to attend all meetings and events.

For more information on all meetings please email Crossport: [crossportcincy@yahoo.com](mailto:crossportcincy@yahoo.com), visit the Crossportcincy Face Book group, or call the Crossport Phone number listed below.

**Contacting Crossport**

Mail: PO Box 19936, Cincinnati, OH 45219  
 Email: [crossportcincy@yahoo.com](mailto:crossportcincy@yahoo.com)  
 Phone: 513-344-0116

**Current Board (Jan 2109-Dec 2020)**

Cathy Allison - [Cathyallisonxp@gmail.com](mailto:Cathyallisonxp@gmail.com)  
 Jill Ambrose  
 Jeanne Fine  
 Wendy Le Cross - [Satinwow@yahoo.com](mailto:Satinwow@yahoo.com)  
 Callie Liskay  
 Stacy Makin - [2stacylynn@gmail.com](mailto:2stacylynn@gmail.com)  
 Laura Ann Weaver  
 Crossport Website: <http://www.crossport.org>  
 Message us through Facebook, either through the Crossport Cincinnati page or the Crossportcincy group.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

All membership information will be held in strict confidence.

Our goal is to better serve your needs!

PREFERRED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

(+LAST INITIAL) (used at gatherings/newsletter)

MAILING NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NEWSLETTER: YES \_\_ NO \_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ OK TO TEXT? \_\_\_\_

SPECIAL EDUCATION/CAREER/SKILLS? (TELL US ABOUT YOU!)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

YOUR INTERESTS: TS \_\_\_ TG \_\_\_ CD \_\_\_ GAY \_\_\_ FRIENDSHIP \_\_\_

EVENTS \_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_

\*YOUR DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

MUST BE OVER 18 TO ATTEND, UNLESS PARENT/GUARDIAN IS PRESENT

SPOUSE/SIGNIFICANT OTHER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TODAY'S DATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

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