



PFLAG National

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Dear Members of "LGBT no kazoku to yujin o tsunagu kai,"

Welcome to the PFLAG family!

We are very happy to learn that there are three branches of "Tsunagu kai" in Japan including your head office in Kobe. We are very confident that you will be helpful not only to a lot of concerned people in Japan but also to those living in the United States or elsewhere in the world who have been looking for a PFLAG-like support group in Japan.

We know each country has specific issues and needs to deal with them accordingly. We have heard that many LGBT persons in Japan choose not to come out and end up in unwanted and unhappy marriages to disguise their true sexual orientation. It might take quite a while to change society so that LGBT persons in Japan can comfortably come out and marry the ones they love and with whom they want to live. We really hope that day will not be too far away.

When PFLAG started forty years ago, none of those early members could have envisioned how far we have come in American society. Here in the United States there are states where marriage equality is the law and we are working hard for that to be true across our country. Many schools now help stop bullying against LGBT youth. We have been working to provide education to communities and to cultivate respect for all people.

We have also worked to change laws that can help to dissolve prejudice against LGBT persons encouraged by these successes, we have redoubled our commitment to support, education and advocacy and the desire to share what we have learned with countries like Japan. You will see the progress we have already made by checking out the news on our website or our daily postings on Facebook and Twitter. We are ready to support your group in any way we can. Please let us know if there is anything we can do.

In concluding, we wish you good luck for your own activities. Let us walk together, hand in hand, arm in arm, on the path to victory for LGBT persons in America, in Japan, and in the world.

Again welcome!

Sincerely,

David Horowitz
President

Jody M. Huckaby
Executive Director



Moving equality forward through support, education and advocacy.