



April 2026



Spencer Pride General Meeting

our mission

At Spencer Pride, our mission is to improve the quality of life for rural LGBTQ+ people in South Central Indiana by:

- fostering allyship and understanding through education and advocacy,
- creating safe spaces that support both physical and mental well-being, and
- addressing social inequities that stem from the unique intersectionality of queer and rural identities

JOIN US THIS SUNDAY

Volunteer Meeting

4-6 PM

In-Person or Via Zoom

Spencer Pride commUnity center
17 E. Franklin Street, Spencer

our vision

At Spencer Pride, our vision is to leverage our diversity and privilege in order to cultivate an inclusive community of compassion and celebration for rural LGBTQ+ people.

Support Lines

[The Trevor Project](#)
Text **Start** to 678678
1-866-488-7386

[National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#)
Call or text 988

[SAGE LGBT Elder Hotline](#)
1-877-360-5428

[Substance Abuse & Addiction Hotline](#)
1-844-289-0879

[Trans Lifeline](#)
1-877-565-8860

Rainbow Family Connection

Spencer Pride is proud to offer this opportunity for fun and learning to families, thanks to the generous financial support of the Simons Foundation.

Come and explore three floors of science and learning! There's something for every age—from preschool to “big kid.”

Many exhibits provide a fun way to learn, from the water works, hands on agriculture to market, physics and engineering exhibit, and testing out the ropes course. Join us for a great day. Space is limited, so please reserve your spot early.

Monthly Programs



A group for lovers of books - including those “banned” for controversial content.

Meets at 5:30 pm on the 4th Thursday (also virtually). Contact Julie@SpencerPride.org for more info. Join our [Facebook Group!](#)

LGBT National Hotlines
 National: 1-888-843-4564
 Youth: 1-800-246-7743
 Coming Out: 1-888-688-5428
 Seniors: 1-888-234-7243

Middle Way House
 1-812-336-0846

If you know of other support hotlines that should be included, please email info@SpencerPride.org. As always, if you are in immediate danger, 911 should be your first option.

Rainbow Cruisers to the Caribbean



We are excited to announce Spencer Pride's next cruise! We will be sailing to the Caribbean on the Celebrity Beyond from June 14-21, 2026. The cruise is open to anyone who wants to support our work and experience Pride Month with us on the ocean! It is a family-friendly experience that is sure to offer something for everyone.

To register or get more details, scan the QR code or visit <https://spencerpride.johnheathtravel.com/>. For each stateroom reserved, Spencer Pride will receive a donation. Our 2024 cruise to Alaska helped us raise \$4,000, and we hope to exceed that amount in 2026.



Did you know that the first penny press (a.k.a. a penny smashing machine) debuted at the Chicago's World Fair in 1893? Since that time these unique machines have popped up around the world and are highly sought by tourists and collectors alike. What does a penny smashing machine do? Well, it should come as no surprise that it smashes pennies. It does so while also imprinting a special design into the coin. Children of all ages love to crank the handle and feel the pressure build as the penny is compressed and imprinted.

Spencer Pride is proud to host Owen County's only penny smashing machine, which has arrived just in time for the eclipse! The Spencer

For more information and to reserve your place, please contact Shea at 812-585-9830 or email shea@spencerpride.org

Rainbow Family CONNECTION
 A PROGRAM OF SPENCER PRIDE

This is a **free** event for you and your family-- Space is limited, reserve your place early.

TERRE HAUTE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2026 10AM - 5PM

Space is limited. For more details and to reserve your place Contact: Shea@spencerpride.org

Executive Director Search

We are excited! And, we need your help.

Spencer Pride is hiring our first-ever Executive Director -- and the right leader may already be in your network. For nearly 20 years, Spencer Pride has been entirely volunteer-powered. We've grown from a small picnic to the largest rural LGBTQ+ gathering in Indiana and operate a thriving community center with year-round programming.

Now, we're hiring a full-time Executive Director to guide our next chapter of growth and sustainability.

Do you know someone with nonprofit leadership experience, fundraising skills, and a passion for inclusive rural communities?

Share the ED post from our Facebook page. Send them this link: www.SpencerPride.org/Careers

Starting salary: \$45,000+
 Strong benefits package
 Based in Spencer, Indiana

Big moments like this don't happen often. Let's find the leader who will help carry Spencer Pride forward.

WE ARE HIRING!

We are currently seeking a talented and motivated individual to fill the position of:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Full-time | Onsite

Applications due this week!

GET INFO & APPLY NOW

www.SpencerPride.org/Careers



Meets on the 2nd Wednesday at 6:15 pm. Individuals bring their own mat, all abilities and level welcome. For more information, contact Julie.M@SpencerPride.org



A group for people who quilt, scrapbook, paint, decoupage, or anything of the like. Meets on the 2nd and 4th Friday from 5 pm to 7 pm. Individuals bring their own supplies to work on a project while others do the same. For more information, contact Cat@SpencerPride.org.



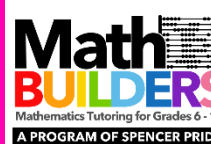
A group for people who love dancing and want to learn it and do it whenever they can. Meets at 6:15 pm on Thursdays. Contact Jacob@SpencerPride.org for more info. Join our Facebook Group!



A spousal grief support group for members of the LGBTQ+ community & allies. Meets at 5:30 pm on the 1st Wednesday. Contact Grief.Haven@SpencerPride.org for more info. Join our Facebook Group!



A group for LGBTQ+ teens and allies (10-19) to connect, support each other, and have fun. Meets at 5 pm on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday. Contact Joy@SpencerPride.org for more info. Follow us in Instagram!



A tutoring group for grades 6-12. Meets at 10 am on Saturdays. Visit our website for schedule. Contact Andrew@SpencerPride.org for more information.



A group for people who love birds and want to explore our natural world. Meets for outings on the 3rd Saturday, and special events. Contact Rainbow.Birders@SpencerPride.org for more info. Join our Facebook Group!



A social group for families with LGBTQ+ members. Meets quarterly. Contact Shea@SpencerPride.org for more info. Join our Facebook Group!



An inclusive Dungeons & Dragons RGP and gaming group. RPG meets as scheduled. Open Game Night 3rd Saturday @ 4 pm. Contact Rainbow.Rollers@SpencerPride.org for more info. Join our Facebook Group!



A group for people who wish to live a more peaceful, joyful, and loving life.

Pride machine features 5 designs, each featuring a special place in Spencer. The penny smashing machine was sponsored in part by Babbs, the Historic Tivoli Theatre, McCormick's Creek State Park, and Sweet Owen Convention & Visitors Bureau. Each coin takes 4 quarters and one penny (just \$1.01 for an awesome souvenir!).

The Owen News

Come get the latest copy of [The Owen News](#) at the commUnity center! We are open Wednesday through Sunday 10 am until 7 pm. Support your local news organization!



Executive Director

The Executive Director will assume primary operating and oversight responsibility for Spencer Pride, Inc. and its commUnity center. They will have ultimate responsibility for strategic, operational, administrative, and financial stewardship and will actively engage internal and external stakeholders in creating a shared vision for the future, supported by the Board. They will work closely with the Board, volunteers, and community partners to expand and continue the robust, sustainable, and welcoming center that is representative and inclusive of the full diversity of Spencer Pride's LGBTQ+ and ally community. This is a full-time position.



For additional position details or to apply, visit www.SpencerPride.org/Careers

Meets at 4 pm on the third Sunday. Contact Karen@SpencerPride.org for more info.

All monthly programs are free to participate and require no advanced registration.

We also host routine health & wellness services and monthly educational programming, in addition to annual events like the Spencer Pride Festival. For more information, ask a Spencer Pride volunteer or contact us at info@SpencerPride.org.

Executive Director

Requirements:

- Possess a high school diploma or equivalent and have a minimum of 5 years of experience in nonprofit leadership; or possess an associate degree and 3 years of experience in nonprofit leadership; or possess a bachelor's degree.
- Have experience in fundraising.
- Have lived experience or active allyship within historically marginalized communities.
- Live in, or be willing to move to, Owen County or other local community.
- Demonstrates capability to communicate clearly, engage inclusively, inspire others, solve problems, and deliver with excellence.



For additional position details or to apply, visit www.SpencerPride.org/Careers

Download the position information packet, which outlines details about our organization as well as expectations, compensation, and benefits for this role, by visiting

www.SpencerPride.org/Careers



Executive Director POSITION INFORMATION PACKET

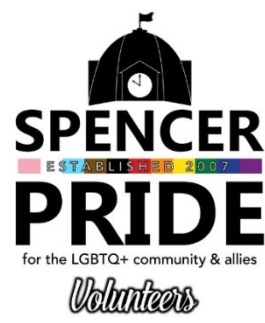
Coming Soon: Finn: A New Musical

Constellation Stage & Screen presents *Finn: A New Musical* – At the PB&J Cafe
On Stage May 1-17 at the Waldron Auditorium

A Dinner Theater for Kids! At the PB&J Cafe, young theatergoers will enjoy a meal during the performance and leave with autographs from their favorite characters.

From the creator of Doc McStuffins and Vampirina, *Finn* is a heartwarming musical adventure about a young shark on the brink of growing up. As he prepares to join the fearsome Shark Guard, Finn can't shake the feeling that he's different from the other sharks. Deep inside, he discovers a colorful fish inside him—a part of himself that longs to sparkle, sing, and dance. As Finn embarks on a journey of self-discovery, friendship, and adventure, he finds the courage to be himself!

Find tickets at <https://seeconstellation.org/kids/finn/>



Open Shifts

Text or call Jacob at 812-821-1442, or watch our Facebook Volunteer group for posts announcing opportunities!



Fundraising News

Become A Sustainer

We are incredibly thankful for our sustainers! These amazing supporters give at a regular interval to cover 50% of the community center's monthly operation costs.

Our goal for 2026 is to grow our Sustainer program to cover 100% of our center's operating costs.

To become a Sustainer, reach out to our Fundraising Director, Elisabeth Solchik, or you can start the process on our website:

<https://spencerpride.org/donate/>



Did you know you could help support Spencer Pride while you are shopping?

support spencer pride through corporate MATCHING

EIN: 26-2197732
ASK YOUR HR/BENEFITS REP FOR MORE INFORMATION!

Matching gift programs are just one of the many types of corporate philanthropy initiatives that companies have, but \$4 - \$7 BILLION in matching gift funds are unclaimed each year!

PHILANTHROPY 101: When an employee makes a donation, they'll request the matching gift from their employer, who then makes their own donation. Companies usually match donations at a 1:1 ratio.

These philanthropy programs allow us to maximize the impact of our donations - ask your employer today to help make an impact in the Spencer community.

COMMUNITY REWARDS UPDATE FOR Q4 2025

YOU CAN HELP!

1. Register your existing Kroger Plus card, or create a new digital card at: <https://www.kroger.com/signin>
2. Under your Kroger Profile > go to Community Rewards > Enroll:
3. Search **EU230** to find Spencer Pride.

37 households
\$55 donated

To learn more about linking your Kroger Rewards Card to Spencer Pride:
<https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>

SPENCER PRIDE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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he/him
President
 Programming Director
 Committee(s): E, P, S



John Angeline

he/him
 Communications Director
 Committee(s): D



Kim Fidler

she/her
Secretary
 Advocacy Director
 Committee(s): E, P, S



Jacob Balash

he/him
 commUnity center Director
 Committee(s): P



Elisabeth Solchik

she/her
Vice President
 Development Director
 Committee(s): E, D, S



Shea Finnegan

he/him
 Director
 Committee(s): P



Wendy Wonderley

she/her
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Joy Hellman

she/her
 Youth Empowerment Director
 Committee(s): P



Rex Finkle

he/him
 Outreach Director
 Committee(s): D



Martha Nally

she/her
 Relationship Development Director
 Committee(s): D

COMMITTEE LEGEND: D = Development, E = Executive, F = Finance, P = Programming S = ED Selection

For more information about our Board, please scan here:



A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

A commUnity center Sponsor provides much needed support to assist with our current programming as well as with our future building expansion and programming that supports the LGBTQ+ community.

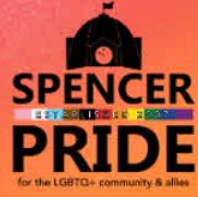
If you or someone you know would like to be a Sponsor, click [here](#) for more details!

A Spencer Pride Sustainer is a donor who gives at a regular interval – monthly, quarterly, or annually – for as little as \$5/month.

We are incredibly thankful for our 2026 sustainers. These amazing supporters give at a regular interval to cover over 75% of the commUnity center's current monthly operation costs.

To become a Sustainer, reach out to our Vice President and Development Director, Elisabeth Solchik at Elisabeth@spencerpride.org, or you can start the process through our website: <https://spencerpride.org/donate/>

Check the box "Show my support by making this a recurring donation"
 And in the blank space that is a drop-down field for "My donation is for," select "Sustainer (Recurring)"



2026 Sustainers



Become a Sustainer

- | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Ben Ale-Ebrahim | Patti Cowin | Christy Kelley | Lynne Shifriss |
| John* Angeline | Christy Crandall | Kathy Kessler | Casey Shively |
| Jonathan* Balash | Eric Crown | Matt Kirk | Kathryn Shumate |
| Jacob* Balash | Dave Debikey | Donna Lowe | Kathy Sideli |
| Truman Balash | Kelli Debikey | Ann Mahrtdt | RJ Sliva |
| Kathy Balash | Tyler DeFord | Marissa Mallo | Jenny Smith |
| Fred Balash | Carl Deitchman | Bob Marshall | Elisabeth* Solchik |
| Marion Banzhaf | Chad Eppelheimer | Lucie Mathieu | Cat Spratt |
| Connie Barton | Kim* Fidler | Jody May | Anna Spears |
| Vic Bequeret | Shea Finnegan* | Felix McBeath | Marcia Steele |
| Glenda Breeden | Eric Flynn-McCormick | Cathy McFarland | Mitch Teplitsky |
| Bill Breeden | Jim Frohlinger | David McFarland | Brayton Thompson |
| Jennifer Brown | David Friedel | Berta Medicus-Moore | Marci Tillison |
| Wren Brown | Darrell Frye | Debbie Messer | Terese Urban |
| Pam Browning | Cathy C. Gebhard | Martha* Nally | Nicole Vasconi |
| George Brinson | Kate Gehringer | Donna Nicholas | Karla Vedder |
| Jessica Brinson | John Grisham | Amanda Nixon | Erica Whichello |
| Dean Bruce | Cari Hale | Mark Parmenter | Karen Williams |
| Marcia Bruce | Jackie Hall | Julie Parmenter | Don Wooldridge |
| Linda Bucklin | Nicholas Heck | Ed O'Brien | Wendy* Wonderley |
| Alex Butrum-Griffith | Mary Heldt | Phillip O'Neil | Cathy Wyatt |
| Linda Campbell | Joy* Hellman | Jameson O'Neil | Dan Wyatt |
| John Cash | David Henk | Janet Rummel | Karen Zuber |
| Nathaniel Clawson | Ann Henk | Eric Sader | Tom Zuber |
| Beth Clawson | Rex* Hinkle | Bethany Satrom | Katie Zuber |
| Allie Cogan McHaley | Cindy Houston | Dorcilla Schoolman | |
| Claire Cogan McHaley | Melanie Keller | John Settle-Corbin | |

*Board of Directors

PURPLE SPONSOR



OCTOBER 4 SPENCER, IN

Thanks again for your support!

Our Contact Information

{{Organization Name}}
 {{Organization Address}}
 {{Organization Phone}}
 {{Organization Website}}

{{Unsubscribe}}

