

VOTES CONQUER HATE
HRC'S WORK TO ELECT
PRO-EQUALITY CANDIDATES

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHTS
RISE UP & TAKE ACTION
AHEAD OF THE ELECTIONS

BAY STATE BATTLE
TRANS EQUALITY
ON THE LINE

 HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

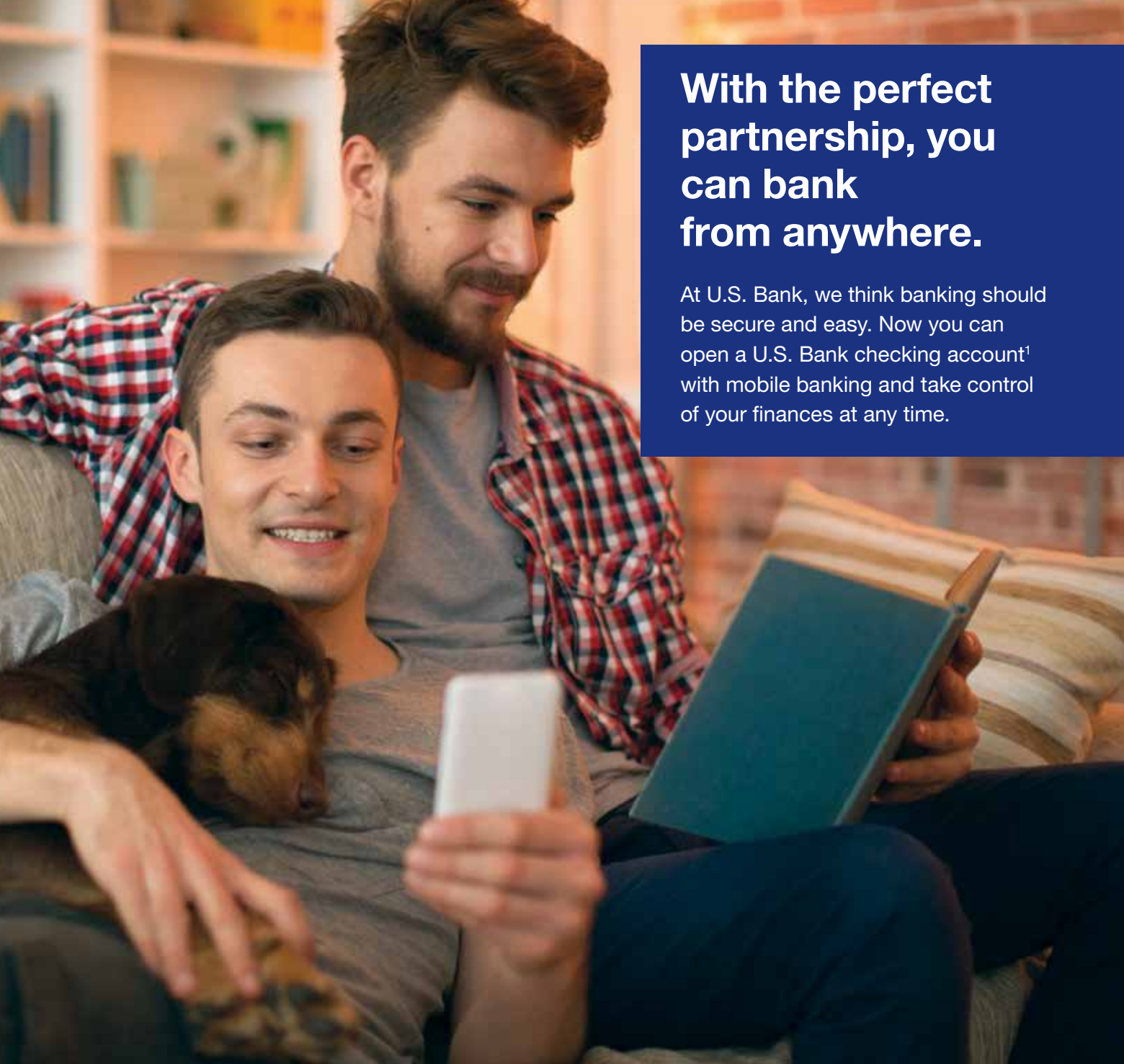
EQUALITY

FALL 2018



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HOW HRC IS MOBILIZING
52 MILLION
EQUALITY VOTERS
TO TAKE OUR
COUNTRY BACK



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CURRENT AS OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2018

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**DEAR FRIENDS,**

For two years now, we've seen our most fundamental rights under attack by those at the highest levels of government. The headlines couldn't be any worse: The president of the United States cozying up to brutal dictators while alienating our allies; signing away our rights through dozens of executive orders; emboldening white supremacy; allowing a gun violence epidemic to run rampant; and heartlessly tearing families apart at the border.

But while these last two years have been long and they have been painful, I have never been more convinced than I am today of our collective power to make change.

Contrary to what he might think, Donald Trump's power is not unlimited. Every single day, we have put up roadblocks on this administration's path of destruction and discrimination, uniting with our allies across movements in resistance.

And now, a reckoning is coming on Election Day.

All of us — HRC's grassroots army of more than 3 million members and supporters — have the power to topple the tacky house of cards the president has built around him. Because at the end of the day, Trump and Mike Pence's ability to implement their bigoted blueprint for America only survives if voters sit this election out.

We cannot let that happen. We will not let that happen. And HRC is hard at work mobilizing and organizing voters in key battle-

ground states and races across the country, and preparing to unleash the electoral power of our community this November.

Together, we have the power to ensure we elect pro-equality candidates to tip the scales and reclaim power in Congress — in the House and the Senate!

With your help, we are going to send a loud and clear message to every bigoted politician across America — if you come for us, then we're coming for you on Election Day.

As I've been traveling across the country meeting with HRC members and supporters from Alabama to Alaska, and just about everywhere in between, I have never seen our community more energized and more committed to the task before us.

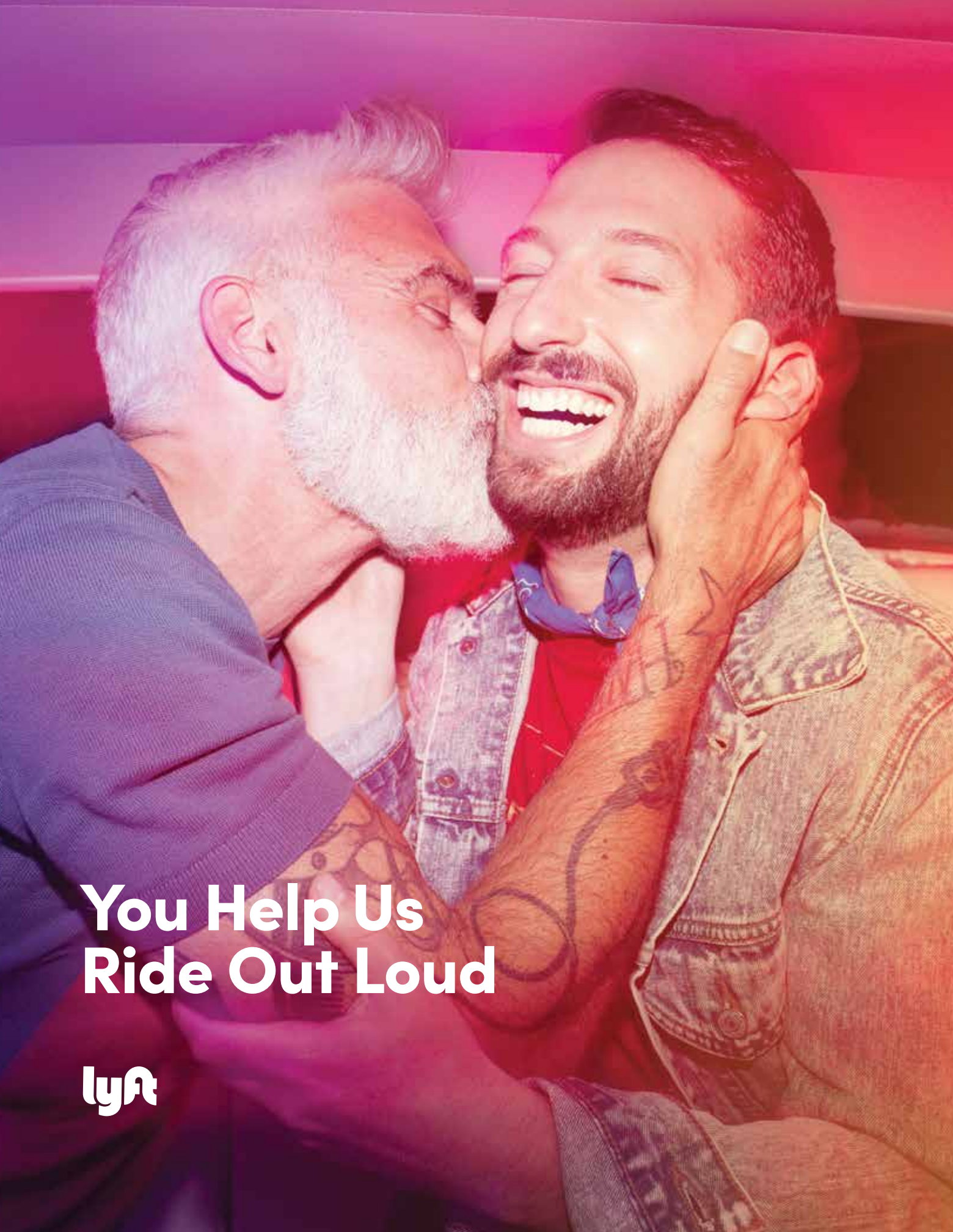
For more than 38 years, the Human Rights Campaign has shown the world that love conquers hate. But this year, in this election, with the future of our democracy on the ballot and the equality of future generations on the line, we need more than love —

we need votes to conquer hate.

So on November 6th, join us in making every vote count. Together, we can pull the emergency brake on the Trump-Pence administration, and we can begin moving our country forward again.

In Solidarity,

Chad Griffin
President
Human Rights Campaign



**You Help Us
Ride Out Loud**

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Artist Shea Diamond's performance at the 21st annual HRC National Dinner left the crowd speechless.



Cover: HRC is hard at work mobilizing and organizing voters in key battleground states and races across the country and preparing to unleash the electoral power of our community this November.

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**STAND
AS ONE**

The Coca-Cola Company

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HRC CELEBRATES LATINX HERITAGE MONTH

HRC is proud to observe Latinx/Hispanic Heritage Month, which began on Sept. 15. The annual event celebrates the histories and cultures of American citizens whose ancestors come from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America.

While we honor their great contributions to American history and culture, we also stand firmly with those in the Latinx community who are under attack. HRC is proud to work with the Latinx community, and is seeking new ways to engage on issues of equality and non-discrimination for Latinx LGBTQ people.

To commemorate the month, HRC Foundation hosted the Latino GLBT History Project for the 13th annual Hispanic LGBTQ Heritage Awards. We also hosted Latinx leaders for a panel discussion about the impact of the hurricanes on LGBTQ Puerto Ricans — particularly LGBTQ seniors. HRC will continue to fight for the rights of LGBTQ immigrants, Muslims, refugees, people of color and all vulnerable communities.



LIFTING UP YOUTH IN CRISIS

Harrowing statistics from a study recently published by the American Academy of Pediatrics revealed alarming levels of attempted suicide among transgender youth — with the highest rates among transgender boys and non-binary youth. The findings emphasize the urgency of building welcoming and safe communities for LGBTQ young people, particularly for transgender youth.

More than half of transgender boys

who participated in the survey reported attempting suicide in their lifetime, while about 30 percent of transgender girls said they attempted suicide.

HRC's resources for LGBTQ youth includes HRC Foundation's Welcoming Schools program, which provides specific guidance to parents, teachers and the wider community for preventing anti-LGBTQ bullying and aggression in schools.

If you are a transgender teen who is depressed or suicidal, call the Trans Lifeline at 877-565-8860.

up
front



WE ARE GOING TO GET OUR COUNTRY BACK."

— **HRC President Chad Griffin told *The Washington Post's* Jonathan Capehart** during an interview on "Cape Up," Capehart's weekly podcast that hosts various cultural figures. "This is a dark and dangerous moment for the country and for the world... We've never been engaged as early. We've never endorsed as many candidates as we've endorsed this time... This is the single largest grassroots expansion in the history of our movement," Griffin said.

VICTORY IN INDIA

HRC celebrated a historic decision by the Supreme Court of India on Sept. 6 overturning a British colonial-era law dating back to 1861 that criminalized consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex.

"This monumental decision by India's Supreme Court finally ends a deeply discriminatory law that violated the dignity and most fundamental human rights of LGBTQ people in India," said HRC Global Director Ty Cobb. "We congratulate the plaintiffs in this case

and the LGBTQ advocates who worked tirelessly for decades to achieve this tremendous victory."

The decision could influence upcoming court cases and galvanize decriminalization efforts in other British Commonwealth countries. Learn more at hrc.org/global.



AMONG NON-BINARY YOUTH,

41.8

PERCENT OF RESPONDENTS STATED THAT THEY HAD ATTEMPTED SUICIDE AT SOME POINT IN THEIR LIVES.

A little **thank-you** for your passion

Nationwide® appreciates your commitment to the Human Rights Campaign (HRC). Thanks to HRC members like you, we can stand strong together to continue the fight for LGBTQ progress.

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TRUMP-PENCE PUT REFUGEES IN CROSSHAIRS

The Trump-Pence administration lowered the refugee admissions cap again this fall, further undermining U.S. human rights leadership in the world.

The Trump-Pence administration will lower refugee admissions from 45,000 to just 30,000, the lowest-ever number. This is the second time the administration has

lowered the cap on refugee admissions. These actions come as the Trump-Pence administration abandons U.S. leadership on human rights around the globe, including attacks on LGBTQ people in Chechnya, Egypt and Malaysia.

HRC calls on Congress to take action to ensure that refugees are welcome here and continues to stand in solidarity with refugees and asylum seekers, many of whom are LGBTQ.



PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIANS SUPPORT LGBTQ RIGHTS

For progressive evangelical Christians, there's no better place to be in the summer than the Wild Goose Festival. Held annually in picturesque Hot Springs, N.C., the festival, attended by up to 3,000 faithful, is a community gathering at the intersection of social justice, spirituality and music.



HRC caught up with faith voters at the festival, all of whom noted the power of voting.

"Politics is how we treat each other. It's how we literally live out our religious values," said Mark Miller, associate professor of church music and director of chapel, Drew University.

DEVOS AGAIN UNDERMINES STUDENT PROTECTIONS

U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos plans to propose a new policy that will make it easier for religious schools and universities to reject gender equity under Title IX — preventing people from knowing which religious colleges discriminated against women and LGBTQ students.

The proposed Title IX regulations would automatically allow religious schools and universities to be exempt from following the gender equity law if they claim a religious exemption.

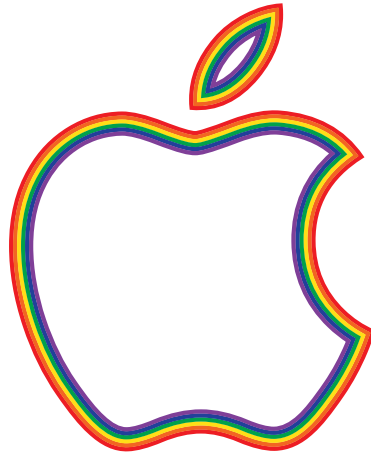
"THERE'S NO WAY NOW FOR ADVOCATES THAT HELP STUDENTS UNDERSTAND WHAT SCHOOLS ARE INTENDING TO DO," said Sarah Warbelow, HRC's legal director.

RESTORING THE VRA

HRC supports a resolution from U.S. Rep. Marc Veasey (D-Texas) and U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) that would designate September as "National Voting Rights Month" and calls for restoration of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

In June 2013, the U.S. Supreme Court invalidated a key provision of the VRA that prevented states with a history of voting discrimination from making changes to voting laws without pre-submitting those changes for federal review.





Then. Now. Always.

For 16 years and counting, Apple has partnered with the Human Rights Campaign to support LGBTQ rights all over the world. We're proud advocates of everything HRC stands for.



VOTES CONQUER HATE

THIS MIDTERM ELECTION IS POISED TO BE A HISTORIC ONE FOR THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY, WITH HRC BUILDING POLITICAL POWER TO PUSH FOR PRO-EQUALITY CANDIDATES NATIONWIDE.

We have never had so much at stake — from the balance of the Supreme Court, to our fight for

the Equality Act, to protections for transgender troops and LGBTQ students, to saving the Affordable Care Act, protecting voting rights, immigration and so much more.

HRC has deployed staff around the country to #TurnOut more than 10 million LGBTQ voters and 52 million Equality Voters — voters who support LGBTQ-inclusive policies

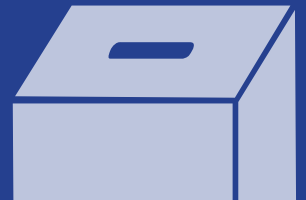
including marriage equality, equitable family law and laws that would prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

With just days left before the election, we need your help to register voters, train new volunteers and help turn out our community and allies.

IT HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER TO GET INVOLVED.

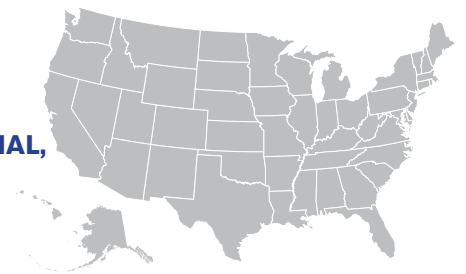
JOIN US

- ★ SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER
- ★ ATTEND AN EVENT
- ★ GET ALERTS
- ★ CHECK YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION STATUS VISIT [HRC.ORG/TAKEACTION](https://www.hrc.org/takeaction) FOR MORE.



460+

NUMBER OF CANDIDATES ENDORSED, INCLUDING IN COMPETITIVE CONGRESSIONAL, SENATE AND STATE RACES ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

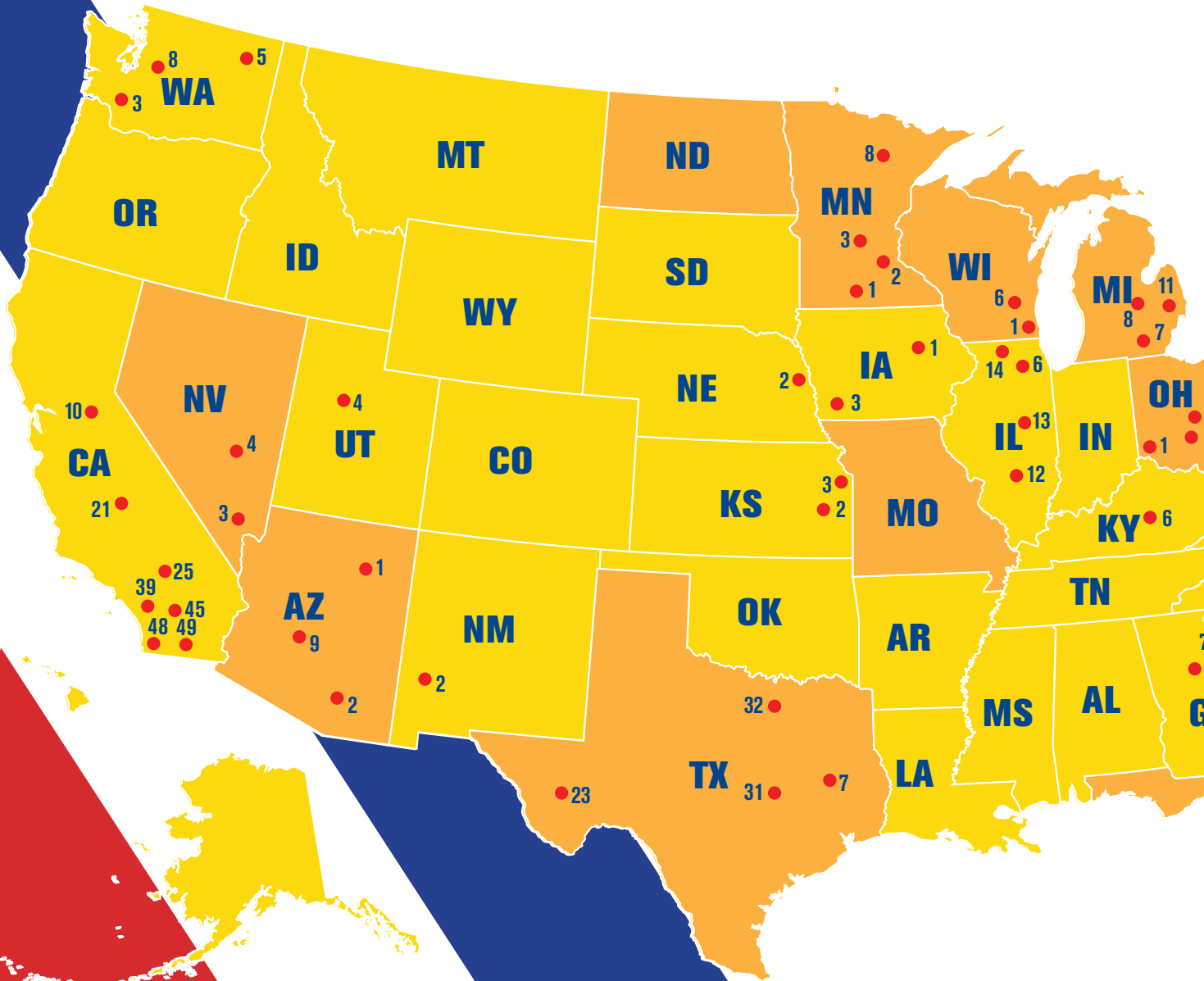


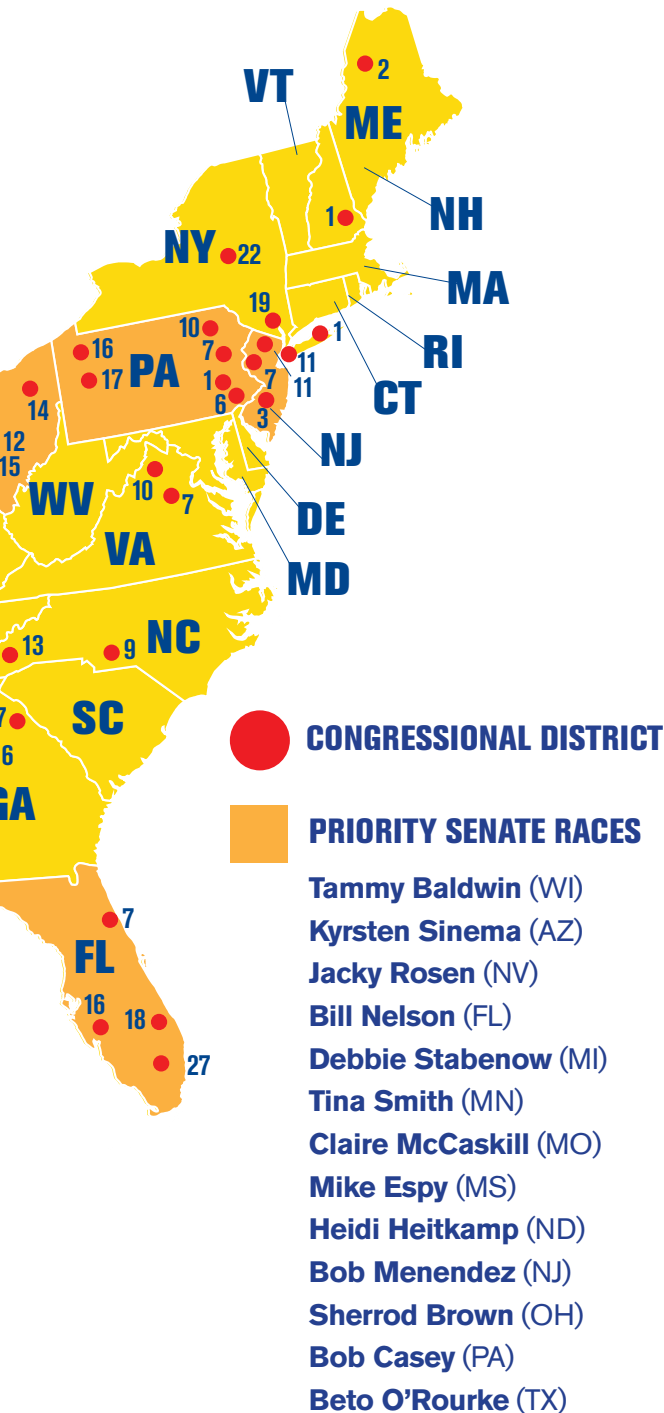
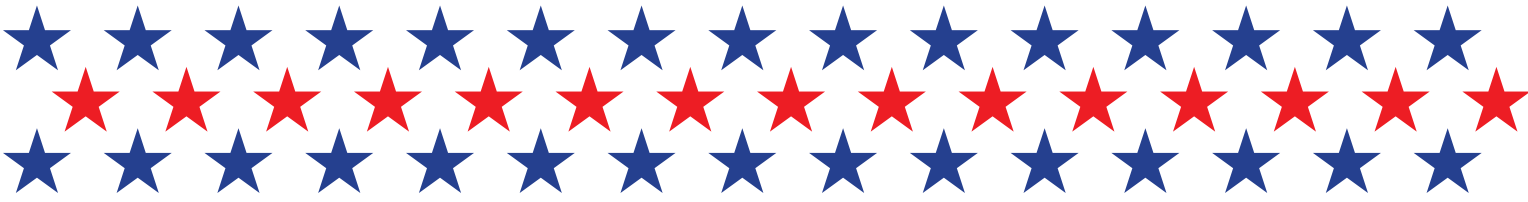
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STATES DON'T HAVE EXPLICIT PROTECTIONS FOR LGBTQ PEOPLE IN PUBLIC LIFE, WHICH IS WHY HRC IS WORKING TO ELECT PRO-EQUALITY MAJORITIES IN THE HOUSE AND SENATE THAT WOULD PASS THE EQUALITY ACT, A BILL THAT WOULD GUARANTEE NON-DISCRIMINATION PROTECTIONS NATIONWIDE.

continued on p. 11

MOBILIZING ACROSS THE COUNTRY LIKE NEVER BEFORE





VOTES CONQUER HATE *cont'd from p. 9*

OUT TO WIN IN 460+ RACES

- ★ **3 MILLION** HRC members and supporters
- ★ Registered **28,000** voters and counting
- ★ Volunteered **10,000** hours this summer and early fall phone banking and canvassing for pro-equality candidates
- ★ Trained more than **1,500** local advocates at more than **100** in-person trainings
- ★ Signed up **1,800+** volunteers for online trainings

HRC TAKES ACTION NATIONWIDE

- ★ Endorsed **460+** candidates up and down the ballot
- ★ Hired and deployed **140** staff in six priority states and nearly **70** congressional districts nationwide
- ★ Recruited more than **2,500** new volunteers in those six priority states
- ★ Created **EQUALITY CORPS**, a community of fierce equality advocates willing to give a bit more of their time to help defend LGBTQ equality in critical moments, and more than **3,100+** people signed up.

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MAKING HISTORY

Unlike any election cycle before, HRC is mobilizing around the country and has endorsed a record number of candidates. From congressional candidates to state legislatures, HRC is making history.

HRC has announced more than 460+ total endorsements of pro-equality and LGBTQ candidates. Of HRC's endorsed candidates, 43 percent are women and one-fourth are people of color.

THIS INCLUDES:


200+
WOMEN

130+
PEOPLE OF COLOR

This is important not only because representation matters, but because these candidates will reshape American politics. They not only support LGBTQ equality; they support restoring the Voting Rights Act, criminal justice reform, immigrant and refugee rights, reproductive rights, gun safety reforms, and more. Here are some historic things about this election:

IN STATE LEGISLATURES:


NEVADA could make history as the first state with a female majority in the state legislature.



JEREMY MOSS & GARNET LEWIS would be the first openly LGBTQ officials in the Michigan state Senate.





NICKIE ANTONIO was the first openly LGBTQ official in the Ohio State House and would be the first in the Ohio state Senate.




IN THE U.S. SENATE:

KYRSTEN SINEMA would become the first openly bisexual person elected to the U.S. Senate and Arizona's first female senator.



U.S. SEN. TAMMY BALDWIN (D-Wis.), who was the first openly LGBTQ person in the Senate and first woman elected from Wisconsin, continues to make history with 25 years of public service under her belt as a state legislator, member of Congress, and senator.



IN THE U.S. HOUSE:

Candidates who would become their state's first openly LGBTQ members of Congress:



- SHARICE DAVIDS (KANSAS)**
- LAUREN BAER (FLORIDA)**
- RICK NEAL (OHIO)**
- ANGIE CRAIG (MINNESOTA)**
- GINA ORTIZ JONES (TEXAS)**
- CHRIS PAPPAS (NEW HAMPSHIRE)**
- LORI BURCH (TEXAS)**

continued on p. 15



LET'S TAKE ON OUR COMMUNITY'S UNIQUE FINANCIAL CHALLENGES, TOGETHER.

At Prudential, we've leveraged our employees, and our community relationships to build a powerful understanding of the challenges and opportunities surrounding our community's financial life – through groundbreaking research, thought leadership, and our support of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender organizations both within and outside of Prudential. It all adds up to us delivering financial solutions to help meet our community's needs.

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MAKING HISTORY *cont'd from p. 13*

GOVERNOR RACES:

This is also the first time there are L, G, B and T nominees for governor races nationwide.

LUPE VALDEZ, of Texas, would be the first openly lesbian governor.



JARED POLIS (Colorado) would be the first openly gay man to be elected governor.



CHRISTINE HALLQUIST (Vermont) would be the first transgender governor.



KATE BROWN (Oregon), who's seeking re-election, is the country's first openly bisexual statewide office holder and first openly bisexual governor.



OTHER STATEWIDE RACES:

In Nevada, **NELSON ARAUJO** would make history as the first openly LGBTQ Latinx person elected to statewide office (secretary of state).



HRC VOLUNTEERS TURNING THE TIDE

MEET SIX EQUALITY ADVOCATES WHO ARE FIGHTING TO TAKE BACK OUR COUNTRY

As part of the Human Rights Campaign's grassroots HRC Rising program, thousands of volunteers in Arizona, Michigan, Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, and in competitive districts nationwide, have invested serious time and resources into getting voters prepared to fight back against hate in the upcoming midterm elections. Volunteers in key states and nearly 70 congressional districts across the country have stepped up to the plate, committing time and expertise to the cause and showing that there's no action too late to count, no act of resistance too insignificant. *Equality* spoke with six stand-out volunteers in the trenches of the midterm elections about what drives them to take action and how you can join the fight.



DARLA LAMMERS of Mesa, Ariz., sees her involvement with HRC Rising in the context of America's very foundations.

"It has never been more important to stand up for what this country was built on, which is equal protection and open opportunities," Lammers said.

This is especially true in the current

political climate, where hateful speech has taken center stage. Lammers started volunteering at phone banks and now trains new phone bank volunteers how to make calls to registered voters in the area.

"I am fighting so that people like my son and his partner can feel safe and know that their rights are the same as everyone else's," she said.

What has surprised her the most about the work is the diversity of the LGBTQ community, and just how many voters there are for whom LGBTQ equality is a serious consideration.



"It is no secret that my existence is under attack right now," says **EMME ZANOTTI** of Detroit, Mich.

As a transgender woman, Zanotti knows firsthand how much the security and freedom of the LGBTQ community depends on having advocates in government. While canvassing in her neighborhood, she learned that getting people from "uninformed or disenfranchised to a point where they really feel empowered and engaged" is tough work, especially with so many

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To learn more, [visit intel.com/diversity](https://www.intel.com/diversity)



TURNING THE TIDE *cont'd from p. 15*

voters uninformed about the midterm elections. But for her, this work goes beyond simple volunteering. "This is me taking a stand," she said. "We all must take a stand."



If you have any questions about the different ways you can get involved, just ask **TYLER PARRY**.

With an advocacy resume that includes speaking at events, coordinating volunteers, setting up and taking down events, selling merchandise, coordinating with outside venues for space, and establishing an HRC club on the University of Nevada, Reno campus, Parry proves there's a way for everyone to get involved. His experience as a volunteer has exposed him to like-minded organizers and shown him just how much support there was for equality, even in Nevada, which went blue in the 2016 election.

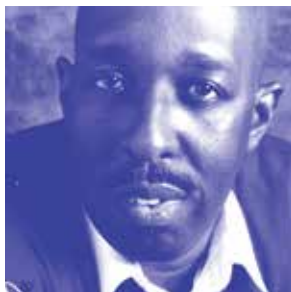
"My best advice for someone wanting to volunteer is just taking that risk," he said. "Go to a rally, ask for an organizer, and sign up to volunteer."

Most importantly, he said, know there is no single, right way to get involved. Whether you're a jack-of-all-trades or not, there are plenty of ways to make your voice heard.



For **CAROL JAMES**, the fight for equality is personal. She has seen her bisexual identity "ridiculed" by a closed-minded culture fueled by a hateful presidential administration. That is why James decided to get involved with HRC Rising in her native Cleveland to turn the tide in the midterms and "mobilize the equality vote now." Registering voters at Pride events, staffing phone banks, canvassing, and even lending a hand at HRC's Cleveland Gala, James demonstrates a few of the hundreds of ways everyday people can galvanize the vote this November.

"Being involved [is] gratifying" — no matter how you do it, James says.



LEE HILL knows a thing or two about politics. Working with the 1984 Mondale campaign, he learned a valuable lesson about power: that we already have it and that "all it takes is getting up, getting out there, and using it."

By training volunteers in public speaking, planning voter registration drives, phone banking, and more, Hill helps the voices of voters get heard.

Hill, who also is active with Steel City Stonewall Democrats and Pittsburgh Black Pride, says it's never too late to get involved in any capacity.

"If you think we have an orange menace in the White House now, what do you think will happen next time around if you don't get involved?" he asked.



When the Founding Fathers were laying the blueprints for American democracy, they likely didn't consider the influence that a sassy gay Olympian would have in the 2018 midterm elections. But for Wisconsinite **VICKIE PETERSON**, this made all the difference.

Watching figure skater Adam Rippon's speech after he received the 2018 HRC Visibility Award "inspired me to get involved," she said. "I finally reached a point where it was time to be a part of the change instead of watching and waiting for it to happen."

Whether she's working booths at Prides or representing HRC at local events, Vickie is proving that "even the smallest of things can inspire change. Your voice is important."

To check your registration status, visit hrc.org/vote. If you want to get involved as a volunteer, check out hrc.org/volunteer. 🇺🇸

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HRC MAKES GAINS IN FIGHT TO PROTECT YOUTH FROM ‘CONVERSION THERAPY’

By Nick Morrow

Anti-LGBTQ extremists are harming young people, all so they can push their discriminatory agenda. Fortunately, HRC has made progress in protecting vulnerable LGBTQ youth, too. In 2018, legislation from both anti-equality and pro-equality politicians has focused on youth, with harmful bills pushing discrimination in child welfare services and positive legislation aimed at preventing minors from the harmful practice of so-called “conversion therapy.”

In 2018, the only anti-LGBTQ state bills to be signed into law were youth-focused. In Oklahoma and Kansas, Gov. Mary Fallin and Gov. Jeff Colyer signed into law “license to discriminate” bills that allow child welfare organizations — including adoption and foster care agencies — to turn away qualified prospective parents seeking to care for a child in need, including LGBTQ couples, interfaith couples, single parents, married couples in which one parent has previously been divorced, or other parents to whom the agency has a religious objection. Additionally, a proviso was added to South Carolina’s final budget that provided for a similar license to discriminate. This type of legislation shrinks the pool of prospective parents, which can lead to children staying in the child welfare system even longer. Essentially, politicians are using vulnerable youth as political pawns so they can discriminate against LGBTQ people who want to be parents.

While anti-LGBTQ extremists are willing to harm youth to push a radical agenda, pro-equality advocates have ramped up our efforts to protect some of the most vulnerable youth among us. This year, several states enacted new legislation to protect against the dangerous, debunked practice of so-called “conversion therapy.” In 2018, **Delaware, Washington, Maryland, Hawaii** and **New Hampshire** all

signed into law legislation that prevents state-licensed health care providers from engaging in this harmful practice with minors. In all, **Connecticut, California, Nevada, New Jersey, the District of Columbia, Oregon, Illinois, Vermont, New York, New Mexico, Rhode Island, Washington, Maryland, Hawaii, New Hampshire** and **Delaware** currently have laws or regulations protecting youth from this abusive practice. A growing number of municipalities have also enacted similar protections, including cities and counties in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Washington, Florida, New York, Arizona, and Wisconsin.

There is no credible evidence that conversion therapy can change a person’s sexual orientation or gender identity or expression. To the contrary, research has clearly shown that these practices pose devastating health risks for LGBTQ young people such as depression, decreased self-esteem, substance abuse, homelessness and even suicidal behavior. The harmful practice is condemned by every major medical and mental health organization, including the American Psychiatric Association, American Psychological Association and American Medical Association.

It is heartening that lawmakers from coast to coast are taking steps to protect vulnerable youth from practices that could cause a lifetime of harm.

Lawmakers will only continue to take steps toward equality if we continue to hold their feet to the fire. As legislation targeting LGBTQ people continues to pop up across the country, it is more important than ever to elect pro-equality politicians — up and down the ballot — who will fight anti-equality legislation and fight to protect their LGBTQ constituents.

Visit HRC’s Voting Center to ensure you’re registered to vote and find your polling place: hrc.org/vote. 🗳️

FILMS HIGHLIGHT THE HARMS OF ‘CONVERSION THERAPY’



This year, two high-profile films were released that shine a light on the dangers of so-called conversion therapy. **“The Miseducation of Cameron Post,”** starring Chloë Grace Moretz, chronicles the journey of a young girl who is sent to a camp that promises to “cure” her after she is caught kissing a girl on prom night. HRC’s National Press Secretary Sarah McBride sat down for an exclusive interview with Moretz, “conversion therapy” survivor Mathew Shurka and director Desiree Akhavan — view the video at hrc.im/cameronpost.



“Boy Erased,” starring Lucas Hedges and Nicole Kidman, follows a teenage boy’s journey to a conversion therapy camp, pushed by his hyper-religious parents. Both films expose the dangers of this type of sham “therapy” while exploring the difficulties that it creates for young LGBTQ people who are coming into their identities.



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HRC Foundation was proud to host its second annual HBCU Diversity and Inclusion Leadership Briefing for University Presidents and Senior Executives.



EMPOWERING HBCU STUDENTS TO LEAD AND CREATE CHANGE

By Helen Parshall

Part of the work to empower the next generation of Equality Voters starts with mobilizing students to act as changemakers in their communities, campuses and workplaces year round.

The HRC Foundation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program is a vital resource to empower LGBTQ young people to be change agents on their campuses across the U.S. Through a combination of an annual leadership summit and year-round support, HRC trains students to lead effectively at the intersections of race, religion, gender identity, class and sexual orientation.

"Leadership is not just about one position, one election or one campaign," said Leslie Hall, associate director of the HRC Foundation's HBCU Program.

"There are a variety of ways and opportunities for our students to become leaders. Our work is to prepare them not just to make change on their campuses, but also in their communities and after college."

"LEADERSHIP IS NOT JUST ABOUT ONE POSITION, ONE ELECTION OR ONE CAMPAIGN!"

This year will mark the 13th annual HBCU Leadership Summit to train and prepare student leaders and administrators to advocate for LGBTQ inclusion and safety. For the first time, the summit will be held in Atlanta, helping to expand its reach

and connection to the broader context of the civil rights movement, Hall said.

Participants will develop leadership skills in the key areas of self-awareness, awareness of others, courageous actions and collaboration to advocate for LGBTQ equality and other social justice issues. Sessions will cover topics including the intersections of race and sexual orientations and gender identities, mental health and wellness, inclusive leadership and harnessing political power.

In July, HRC Foundation was proud to host its second annual HBCU Diversity and Inclusion Leadership Briefing for University Presidents and Senior Executives. It's part of a multi-pronged strategy to create high-level policy changes that will support and protect LGBTQ students and staff on college campuses around the country.

continued on p. 31

Despite declining HIV infection rates in the U.S., college-aged and Black Americans continue to be at a higher risk of acquiring HIV than the general population. The guide is the first of its kind aimed to educate campuses about the current realities of the HIV epidemic in the South.

This guide provides:

- Tips for developing and implementing formal HIV-inclusive policies;
- Strategies for decreasing stigma and discrimination for people living with HIV;
- Comprehensive and LGBTQ-inclusive sexual health education on campus;
- Overarching best practices

for working with community organizations to address the gaps in resources for student health between HBCUs and larger, flagship universities supported by state resources.

Read the guide at hrc.im/MakingHIVHistory





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The HRC National Dinner draws more than 3,600 guests to celebrate advancements in the fight for LGBTQ equality and to recommit to the work that still lies ahead.



‘VOTE, VOTE, VOTE’

BIDEN, HOLDER, HATHAWAY & SHEA DIAMOND RALLY HRC NATIONAL DINNER CROWD AS ELECTION LOOMS

The excitement and anticipation were palpable during the 22nd annual HRC National Dinner — for the event itself, as well as the upcoming election that was a key theme in the speeches of all who took the stage.

The Sept. 15 dinner was part of a weekend of events in Washington, D.C., galvanizing HRC’s members and supporters as the organization heads into the final days of its get-out-the-vote efforts for the critically important mid-term elections.

“Your tenacity and your integrity literally bent the moral arc of this nation toward justice,” 47th Vice President of the United States Joe Biden said to HRC supporters. “Thanks to you, our children and grandchildren will grow up in a world that’s far more just, open-minded and humane. But our work is not yet done.”

Joining Biden, notable speakers and performers at the event included former Attorney General of the United States Eric Holder; Academy Award-winning actress Anne Hathaway, who

was honored with the HRC National Equality Award; rapper and actress Awkwafina; transgender advocate and artist Shea Diamond; Olympic bronze medalist Adam Rippon and more.

Biden applauded HRC’s work fighting for the Equality Act, which would explicitly protect LGBTQ people from discrimination in public spaces nationwide.

“Today, we still don’t have a federal law that explicitly protects LGBTQ people from being fired or evicted or denied service in a restaurant,” Biden said, citing the importance of passing the Equality Act. “In 28 states, you can still be fired for being gay. In 30 states you can be fired if you’re transgender.”

HRC President Chad Griffin noted that with our sights on the election, HRC is endorsing hundreds of candidates to ensure that Congress and state legislators are majority pro-equality.

“We’re doing this for the millions of LGBTQ people living in a state today without non-discrimination protections,

so that we can make the Equality Act the law of the land,” Griffin said.

The spirit of the dinner emphasized the will and need to continue fighting back against harmful attacks by the Trump-Pence administration.

“YOUR TENACITY AND YOUR INTEGRITY LITERALLY BENT THE MORAL ARC OF THIS NATION TOWARD JUSTICE.”

“Make no mistake: We are in the struggle of our lives and for our democracy,” Holder said. “I’m willing to fight for an America that is tolerant, fair and just.

continued on p. 36



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MGM RESORTS

MASSACHUSETTS BALLOT FIGHT: TRANS EQUALITY ON THE LINE

by Rokia Hassanein

For advocate and author Mimi Lemay, a lot is at stake for her family this midterm election. On Nov. 6, Massachusetts voters will decide the fate of a non-discrimination law that protects transgender people in public spaces.

Lemay's son, Jacob, came out to his parents when he was two-and-a-half years old. Lemay and her husband, Joe, who are both part of HRC's Parents for Transgender Equality Council, supported Jacob, now 8 years old, and his transition. PTEC is a coalition of the nation's leading parent-advocates working for equality and fairness for transgender people.

"Our transition was such a positive experience, but we realized that families with trans kids still faced many hurdles from folks who didn't understand how a child could know their gender identity," Lemay said.

Since then, they've dedicated themselves to education and advocacy. When Lemay publicly shared her experience, advocates in Massachusetts reached out to her family to join the fight they had been waging for a decade to pass the transgender non-discrimination bill. In July 2016, Republican Gov. Charlie Baker signed the bill into law, and it went into effect in October 2016.

"It was gratifying to witness the overwhelming support in the Massachusetts House and Senate for this measure," she said. "Our joy, unfortunately, was short-lived."

Opponents of equality, led by the anti-LGBTQ Massachusetts Family Institute and Keep MA Safe, used anti-transgender tactics and messages to get Question 3, which would repeal these non-discrimination protections, on the ballot this election.

"This is a horrifying prospect," Lemay said. "The civil rights of our

transgender and non-binary citizens in Massachusetts are at stake. If Massachusetts, one of the most progressive states in the union, falls, what happens to the rest of the country?"



Advocate Mimi Lemay speaks on the steps of the Massachusetts State House in July 2016 following the passage of the state's transgender non-discrimination bill.

"IT'S MY BELIEF THAT MOST PEOPLE ARE BASICALLY GOOD AT HEART — AND THAT MEETING SOMEONE WHO IS TRANSGENDER OR SOMEONE WITH A TRANS FAMILY MEMBER CAN CHANGE A PERSON'S OUTLOOK FROM FEAR AND IGNORANCE TO ACCEPTANCE."

In an exclusive video produced by HRC in partnership with Freedom for All Massachusetts, Lemay talked about what it would mean to her family if the law is repealed. Watch the video at hrc.im/lemayfamily.

"The law means that I can feel safe about Jacob going to places and enjoying all the things that Massachusetts has to offer," she said.

This, Lemay emphasized, will have national ramifications.

"Hate groups across the U.S. see the ballot measure in Massachusetts as a potential catalyst that will help them strip rights from LGBTQ people nationwide," she said. "What happens in

Massachusetts will have significant impact — either positive or, God forbid, negative, in the rest of the country."

Through her advocacy and as a member of PTEC, Lemay found that her local community has been responsive to understanding the need for anti-discrimination laws that protect transgender people.

"It's my belief that most people are basically good at heart — and that meeting someone who is transgender or someone with a trans family member can change a person's outlook from fear and ignorance to acceptance," she said. "I have seen it happen thousands of times."

Throughout it, Lemay has been countering transphobic, dehumanizing rhetoric.

"I ask people what kind of world they would like for their children, one where all can participate in public life, or one where some people, like my son Jacob, are relegated to the shadows?" said Lemay. "I feel optimistic that with HRC at our backs we will win this fight in November."

Lemay hopes voters see the urgency to affirm equality and fairness.

"I remind people that my son is real, that he is a good person, that he is who he is meant to be and should be allowed to grow up alongside their own children. I remind them that when they go to the polls on November 6th, they are voting for his future," she said.

To learn more about PTEC, visit hrc.im/ParentsCouncil. 🇺🇸



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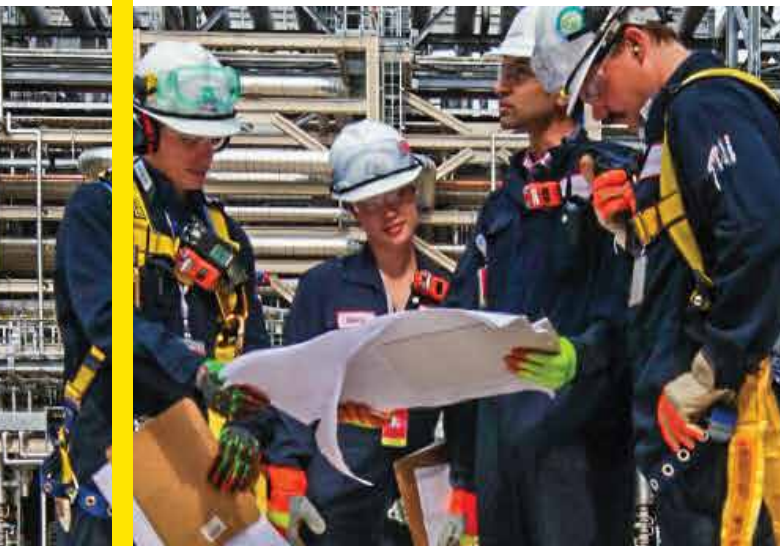
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Mitchell Gold
+ Bob Williams

HBCU *cont'd* from p. 21

Leaders from 12 HBCUs joined the day-long discussion about advancing inclusive practices and policies in the largest-ever gathering of HBCU presidents to address LGBTQ issues. Michael Lomax, CEO and president of the UNCF (United Negro College Fund), also participated, along with HRC staff, representatives from major employers and HBCU alumni who serve on HRC Foundation's Parents for Transgender Equality Council.

Leaders at the presidents' summit also received a pre-release copy of HRC Foundation's new comprehensive guide outlining many of the critical steps higher educational institutions can take to help achieve an HIV-free generation.

"In the fight to end HIV and AIDS, we must ensure our work touches every college and university campus — and especially those primarily serving Black college-aged students, who are disproportionately impacted by the epidemic,"

Hall said. "This guide will help these institutions provide equitable treatment, expand access to care and offer educational resources for people living with HIV and LGBTQ students."

As a group, college students experience heightened risk factors that can lead to contracting HIV, including engaging in high-risk sexual behavior and experimenting with drugs or alcohol. Yet the CDC reports that that between 2000 and 2014, the percentage of schools in which students are required to receive instruction on HIV prevention actually decreased from 64 percent to 41 percent.

After November's summit, the next step for the HBCU program will be to launch an HBCU LGBTQ network of alumni. The aim, said Hall, is to increase HRC's reach and connections across the country to support LGBTQ equality on HBCU campuses.

"Having a network of alumni in place will help us to provide tools, facilitate connections with other LGBTQ

HBCU alums and address issues more quickly when they arise," Hall said. "We want to empower our young people to fight for equality — not just when they're in college, but long after, building a footprint of HBCU students in the nonprofit sector."

To learn more about HRC Foundation's HBCU Program, visit hrc.org/HBCU. 🇺🇸



Equality activists celebrate after completing the 2017 leadership summit cohort and completing team-building activities.

Morgan Stanley

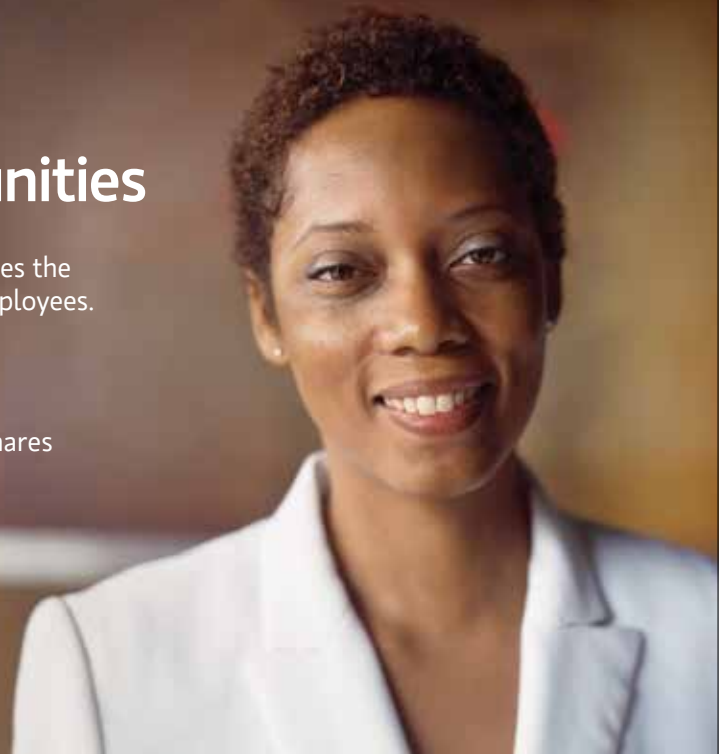
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AS AN HRC MEMBER, you already know the importance of voting on November 6th. You're registered. You know your polling place. You know who is on the ballot. **Now we need you to rise up and volunteer!**

The 2018 midterm elections are our opportunity to pull the emergency brake on the Trump-Pence agenda of hate. We've got one shot at this, so **we're calling on every HRC member to do more than vote.**

The biggest need right now is for our Dialer Team. **Volunteer with HRC's get out the vote efforts** — call or text pro-equality voters and remind them to vote!

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- **Canvassing** for HRC-endorsed candidates
- **Making calls** to pro-equality voters
- **Joining a text bank** to send get-out-the-vote reminders
- Helping HRC's field staff at **local events**

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25,000+ members registered to vote



8,400+ members pledged to vote



1,800+ signed up for Equality Action Academy training



3,000+ signed up to volunteer

14,500 members began making monthly gifts as an HRC Partner



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HRC'S GALA EVENTS

CHICAGO DINNER

OCTOBER 27, 2018

- Penelope Garcia & Tory Mitchell
- Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile
- [hrc.org/chicagodinner](http://www.hrc.org/chicagodinner)

PALM SPRINGS GARDEN PARTY

NOVEMBER 3, 2018

- Lynn Hammond, Thomas Cowley & Andy Linsky
- The Residence of HRC Donors Jane & Mark Garrison
- www.hrcpalmsprings.org

NEW ENGLAND DINNER

NOVEMBER 17, 2018

- Courtney Spitz, Miriam Gallardo, Mike Kelly & Ricardo Rodriguez
- Seaport World Trade Center
- hrcnewengland.org

SOUTH FLORIDA DINNER

JANUARY 12, 2019

- Nik Harris, Robert Lopardo & Alfredo Olvera
- Ritz-Carlton Ft. Lauderdale
- hrc.org/southfloridadinner

AUSTIN DINNER

JANUARY 26, 2019

- Erin Gurak, Christina Hernandez & Trey Pike
- JW Marriott Austin
- hrcaustin.org

NEW YORK DINNER

FEBRUARY 2, 2019

- www.hrcgreaterny.org

NORTH CAROLINA DINNER

FEBRUARY 23, 2019

- hrccarolina.org/thegala

CINCINNATI DINNER

MARCH 2, 2019

- hrc.org/cincinnatiadinner

NASHVILLE DINNER

MARCH 2, 2019

- hrc.org/boxoffice

PHILADELPHIA DINNER

MARCH 9, 2019

- hrc.org/philadelphiaadinner

ARIZONA DINNER

MARCH 23, 2019

- hrc.org/arizonadinner

LOS ANGELES DINNER

MARCH 30, 2019

- www.hrcladinner.com

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Leave a gift for HRC in your will or trust.



I'm willing to fight with all of you. I need all of you every step of the way.”

In addition to encouraging people to vote, the event also honored iconic LGBTQ people and allies.

This included a beautiful performance from Diamond, a transgender singer who left the convention center speechless with her song dedicated to transgender people.

“With this climate, with over 20 trans women this year that we know of violently killed, I am more proud of you than I’ve ever been,” Diamond said. “It is our moral obligation to fight for every single life, and that includes trans lives. Trans lives matter.”

And while introducing the National Equality Award to Hathaway, Awkwafina said her *Ocean’s Eight* co-star exemplifies what it means to be an ally to the LGBTQ community.

“From speaking out for equality early in her career, to fighting for marriage equality, to donating the sale of her wedding photos to help fund the fight for marriage, Anne walks the walk,” she said. “Her love for the community might stem from accepting and supporting her gay brother, but her involvement transcends that. And she keeps showing up for the cause.”

Hathaway inspired the crowd with her speech on intersectional activism and taking on issues that encompass race, sexual orientation, gender identity and privilege.

“[The] myth is that gayness orbits around straightness, transgender orbits around cisgender and that all races orbit around whiteness. This myth is wrong. But this myth is too real for too many,” Hathaway said. “I appreciate this community so much, because it’s where I learned to reject this myth. I appreciate this community because together, we are not just going to question this myth — we are going to destroy it.”

Breaking through those myths and boundaries and working to protect and advance equality for LGBTQ people from all walks of life is why HRC’s mobilization efforts are more important than ever before.

“Go spread the faith, vote, vote, vote,” Biden said. 🏳️



Photo: Kevin Wolf / AP

RAISE THE WORLD'S STANDARDS.



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CenturyLink has grown! We are now the second largest telecommunications provider to enterprise customers within the United States. We recognize the importance of bonding when your family grows too. That's why CenturyLink offers up to 4 weeks paid leave to employees who bring a new child into their home through birth, adoption, or the use of a surrogate.

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