



## Message from the CEO

Dear Friends, Donors, Volunteers and Community Leaders:

Wow, what a year it has been, one full of countless emotions that I find difficult to articulate. COVID-19 has affected the entire world in various unexpected, frightening and painful ways. This global pandemic was difficult for everyone, especially those who already felt isolated and alone, which includes our LGBTQ+ youth. On behalf of the entire Encircle family, I want to express our love and support to those who have experienced loss of any kind due to COVID-19. Despite the many challenges that Encircle faced, our team came together, worked tirelessly and were able to finish 2020 on a positive note. Our mission was always at the forefront of our minds and hearts; bringing together families and communities to enable our LGBTQ+ youth to thrive. Things may have looked different, but because of the astounding support by the community we were able to fulfill that mission.

When the entire world was forced to shut down, our programming team quickly revamped all of the in person services we offered, making them accessible online. We hosted virtual friendship circles, parent support groups and most importantly, continued to serve youth by moving our life saving therapy sessions online. The pandemic made it clear that the services we offer are especially critical in rural areas where youth cannot visit Encircle homes in person. We have learned that offering online services, especially therapy, to LGBTQ+ youth is a very important component of Encircle's mission.

Encircle will continue to offer these services online to those living in a space or location that make it difficult or impossible to feel connected and loved.

The Encircle St.George renovation was completed in April 2020 but, due to the pandemic the doors remained closed to in person gatherings. In October we held a very small ribbon cutting where over 300 people gathered, socially distanced, wearing masks, to show love and support for the LGBTQ+ youth in Southern Utah. At the Grand Opening Jared Turner, who had purchased the naming rights, dedicated the home to his parents Kim and Terry, making it The Kim and Terry Turner Encircle Home.

Our future looks big and bright. In December we reorganized the Encircle Board of Directors, welcoming a powerful group of community leaders who are committed to creating a more loving and inclusive place for all LGBTQ+ people. We also launched an online campaign in December raising just over \$350,000.00, making it possible for us to bring our life saving services to the Wasatch Back. We continue to work extremely hard on expansion and are focusing heavily on providing the best mental health therapy for LGBTQ+ youth and their families. Thanks to the combined donations from Ryan and Ashley Smith, Apple Inc., along with Dan Reynolds and his wife Aja Volkman donating his childhood home, located in Las Vegas, Encircle kicked off our "\$8 Million Dollars, 8 New Encircle Homes" campaign. This campaign will make it possible for Encircle to expand outside of Utah, into Nevada, Idaho and Arizona. We are committed to making the world a more loving, accepting and safer place for LGBTQ+ youth and will utilize these donations to ensure this happens in every way possible.

It takes a community and I am continually moved by the people who show up for these kids. My sincere thank you to everyone who has supported us during one of the most challenging times we have faced. Thank you to all of our donors and volunteers, every dollar matters and every minute you serve makes a difference. "Buckle-Up" is our new internal mantra, it's going to be an exciting ride. We are committed to serving the LGBTQ+ youth and their families along with educating the community, bringing joy, hope and love, something we are all deserving of.

Much Love,



Stephenie Larsen
FOUNDER & CEO, ENCIRCLE
SHE/HER



## Our LGBTQ+ Youth Remain At Risk.

- 40% OF LGBTQ+ YOUTH have seriously considered attempting suicide in the past 12 months.
- 1 IN 3 LGBTQ+ YOUTH reported that they had been physically threatened or harmed in their lifetime due to their LGBTQ+ identity.
- MORE THAN HALF OF TRANSGENDER YOUTH have seriously considered suicide.
- According to the Utah Suicide Prevention Plan, 2017-2021, "gay and transgender teens who are highly rejected by their parents and communities are MORE THAN EIGHT TIMES AS LIKELY TO ATTEMPT SUICIDE."
- 86% OF LGBTQ+ YOUTH said that recent politics have negatively impacted their well-being.
- 46% OF LGBTQ+ youth report they wanted psychological or emotional counseling from a mental health professional but were unable to receive it in the past 12 months.

# 2020 At A Glance

60,000

Individuals Served

2,312

Therapy Sessions

\$2,378,120

Total Amount Raised

4

Encircle Homes







### The Year Encircle Moved Online

#### **MOVING ONLINE**

On March 12, 2020, Encircle closed the Provo and Salt Lake City Homes, moving services online due to the global pandemic. Encircle immediately organized online services to reach our communities. Since March 16, 2020 Encircle's services have included 12 online Friendship Circles per week, including groups like the Queer Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (QBIPOC) Friendship Circle for adults (18+) and Connect, a program for the parents and allied loved ones of LGBTQ+ people. Our online services have seen participants from across Utah, the United States, Brazil, and Mexico. Over 20 volunteers from our Provo, Salt Lake City, and St. George Encircle communities have come together to facilitate these online services and ensure our LGBTQ+ youth, young adults, and their families feel supported, loved, and encouraged during this trying, isolating time. Although the Encircle Homes re-opened for in-person services in October 2020, Encircle's volunteers still remain committed today to providing online services for those who may still not be able to come back to an Encircle Home.

#### REOPENING

On October 19, 2020, Encircle reopened the Provo and Salt Lake City Homes. Additionally, Encircle opened the St. George Home's doors to the public for the very first time. All Homes resumed Encircle's in-person services—Drop-In Hours, Friendship Circles, and daily activities were implemented alongside measures to protect Encircle's guests and to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Since October 2020, Encircle has required masking, social distancing, and temperature checks upon entry for every guest. Guests have the choice to voluntarily opt-in to participate in contact tracing, just in case there should ever be a COVID-19 exposure at the Homes. Sanitization procedures have been updated and made more frequent to align with the CDC's guidelines, and signage has been posted in all Homes to provide guests with information to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Since reopening, all Homes have been able to operate without having to close due to COVID-19 exposure, thus serving those LGBTQ+ youth and young adults acutely needing connection and belonging during the pandemic.

#### **ENCIRCLE TELETHERAPY**

In March, Encircle adapted to provide teletherapy to protect patient health during the global pandemic. Teletherapy has proven to be critical for the LGBTQ+ youth. Encircle has been able to continue providing this vital service, while keeping patients and therapists safe. People with many different circumstances such as lack of transportation, location in rural areas, and work schedule have been able to attend therapy sessions that would not have otherwise been possible. Moreover, we've been able to hire therapists with expertise that may not be local to an Encircle home. We will continue to offer teletherapy due to the overall success and outreach we have experienced.

1,800

TELE-THERAPY SESSIONS

2,250

TOTAL THERAPY SESSIONS





## Programs Offered During 2020

#### **ELEVATE**

A speaking series in which Encircle invites diverse, thriving, inspirational LGBTQ+ individuals with diverse backgrounds and life journeys from the community to come and share their story.

95% of guests report being able to connect to speaker's story

#### **TOOLS TO THRIVE**

Designed for LGBTQ+ college students, Tools to Thrive is a discussion-based program meant to facilitate growth and discovery in an intimate setting where community members can talk openly about the challenges faced by LGBTQ+ people and their families and friends and share tools they've used to overcome these challenges.

OUTSIDE FACILITATORS, EXPERTS, & PANELISTS BROUGHT IN TO EDUCATE OUR GUESTS ACROSS BOTH LOCATIONS

#### **SERVE**

Our most popular family and ally program, Serve is a service-based program designed to foster connection between LGBTQ+ youth, their families, and the community at large.

organizations encircle have worked with across both locations





#### CONNECT

Connect is a program for parents and loved ones of LGBTQ+ individuals in which parents & loved ones are invited to listen to guest speakers, engage in discussions, participate in a book group, and participate in a variety group activities. All aspects of the program are geared toward parents & loved ones as they navigate their child's/loved one's coming out process and beyond.

AVERAGE NUMBER OF GUESTS
PER WEEK ACROSS BOTH LOCATIONS

95% of guests report learning something new each week

#### LUNCH WITH LISA

Lunch with Lisa is an opportunity for parents of LGBTQ+ children to gather to share sorrows, strengths, and successes. Parents bring their own lunches and meet together to eat, talk, and process experiences relevant to being a parent of an LGBTQ+ child.

AVERAGE NUMBER OF GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE PER WEEK PER LOCATION

of guests in attendance have transgender/gender diverse children

#### LOVE LOUDER ART

This program is hosted by local artists and masters of their craft and provides new skills and coping strategies, promoting creative and artistic expression.

45% of guests travel from outside utah and salt lake counties

90% of guests report engaging in a positive emotional experience



#### **BEYOND: A NIGHT OF MUSIC**

A night of music in which all members of the community are welcome to come sing, play/bring instruments, laugh, jam, & connect together.

AVERAGE GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE PER WEEK PER LOCATION

96% of guests report feeling connected to each other through music

#### **BLUE SKY**

Facilitated by writing professionals, this program provides a safe space for participants to find their voice through writing.

96% REPORT HAVING ENGAGED IN A POSITIVE AND FULFILLING CREATIVE WRITING EXPERIENCE

AVERAGE NUMBER OF GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE PER WEEK PER LOCATION

#### **BECOMING**

An ongoing program to strengthen understanding and dialogue between gender diverse persons and their family members, allies, and community.

95% of guests feel safe to ask hard questions relative to weekly content

96% OF GUESTS IDENTIFY WITH THE TOPICS DISCUSSED AT BECOMING

#### RAINBOW MUTUAL

An opportunity for LGBTQ+ youth, siblings, and allies to come together for a fun monthly event ranging from game nights to petting zoos to talent shows.

AVERAGE NUMBER OF GUESTS
IN ATTENDANCE PER PROGRAM

## **National Expansion**

Encircle, whose motto is "no sides, only love," was created with the goal of bringing together families and communities, to enable LGBTQ+ youth to thrive. To further that vision and reach even more people, today Encircle is launching a new "\$8 Million, 8 Houses" capital campaign, which will establish eight new Encircle homes in four states: Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, and Utah. Encircle already has three Utah homes in Provo, Salt Lake City and St. George, and a fourth under construction in Heber.

To jumpstart the campaign, Qualtrics founder and Utah Jazz owners Ryan and Ashley Smith will contribute \$2 million, and Imagine Dragons' lead singer Dan Reynolds and his wife, recording artist Aja Volkman will donate Dan's childhood home--valued at \$1 million--in Las Vegas. In addition, Apple will donate \$1 million and contribute products that promote digital connection, creativity and education. Apple CEO Tim Cook, Ryan and Ashley Smith, and Dan Reynolds and Aja Volkman will also serve as honorary co-chairs of Encircle's new campaign, supporting the non-profit's expanding efforts to build community, acceptance and understanding for young LGBTQ+ people and their families.







"All LGBTQ+ people should feel safe and supported enough to be open about who they are with their community and themselves," said Cook, who has visited the organization's Provo house. "Encircle is helping to bridge divides and bring people together — sending a powerful message that the greatest thing you can aspire to become is who you truly are. It's my hope that every young person who feels alone or unsupported can find connection and community at this incredible organization."



"Encircle is about bringing young LGBTQ+ people and their families together, by including the community and strengthening the bonds that connect us," said Dan Reynolds and Aja Volkman.

"Being a part of this organization means so much to both of us — and we know the house Dan grew up in will be a loving and supportive home to every young LGBTQ+ person who crosses the threshold."

"Ashley and I have seen the amazing work Encircle does to benefit LGBTQ+ youth. We're grateful for the opportunity to contribute to their mission of creating more inclusive communities and providing much needed hope and support to youth," said Ryan Smith. "Encircle is an incredible example of the entrepreneurial spirit and drive that motivates people to create a better, more accepting world. Working with Tim Cook, Apple and Dan and Aja on the '\$8 Million, 8 Houses' campaign to improve the experience of LGBTQ+ youth is just the beginning. Encircle's innovative and loving approach is a model that can and should be adopted globally."

"We are extremely grateful that these global leaders see the vision of the profound work we are doing for LGBTQ+ youth and families throughout our communities," said Stephenie Larsen, CEO & Founder of Encircle. "Studies repeatedly have shown that LGBTQ+ youth across the country struggle with depression and suicidality far more than their heterosexual peers, and the pandemic has made that sense of isolation so many feel harder than ever before. We strive to give these kids a positive and loving environment that builds support within their communities where they can realize their full potential, and it works - we have not lost a single youth to suicide. This incredible support makes our nationwide expansion possible and will improve countless LGBTQ+ lives - reminding them that they are perfect, just as they are."



"Encircle is a visionary organization. We cannot overstate the impact they are having on the lives of young people who struggle daily with acceptance and inclusion," said Utah Governor Spencer Cox. "We are grateful for the impact Encircle has had in our communities and are excited to see their leadership and vision expanding nationwide. The commitment Tim, Ryan and Ashley, and Dan and Aja have shown to the LGBTQ+ community by supporting this cause is inspiring. I will do everything in my power to share that same sense of love and commitment with LGBTQ+ youth everywhere."







### New Online Programming Lineup

Based on participant feedback, participation statistics, and the impact of the COVID-19 global pandemic on daily operations, Encircle recently restructured and reimagined its suite of life-affirming programming to include the following hybrid schedule of in-person and online offerings. This restructuring provides flexibility as the COVID-19 situation develops and offers multiple options for the communities we serve:

#### **ENCIRCLE IN-PERSON THEMATIC MONTHLY ACTIVATIONS**

A community outreach initiative focused on engaging LGBTQ+ youth around monthly themed events to help create connection, support, and a sense of belonging for youth during Covid-19. Each month on a designated date, LGBTQ+ youth are invited to come in-person to the Encircle homes to pick up care-packages carefully curated around monthly themes including "Back To School," "Self-Care, "Treat Yourself," "Thankful For You," and "Year-End Reflection." Our first activation was held on August 28th and served 425 LGBTQ+ youth across all homes.

#### **LUNCH WITH LISA**

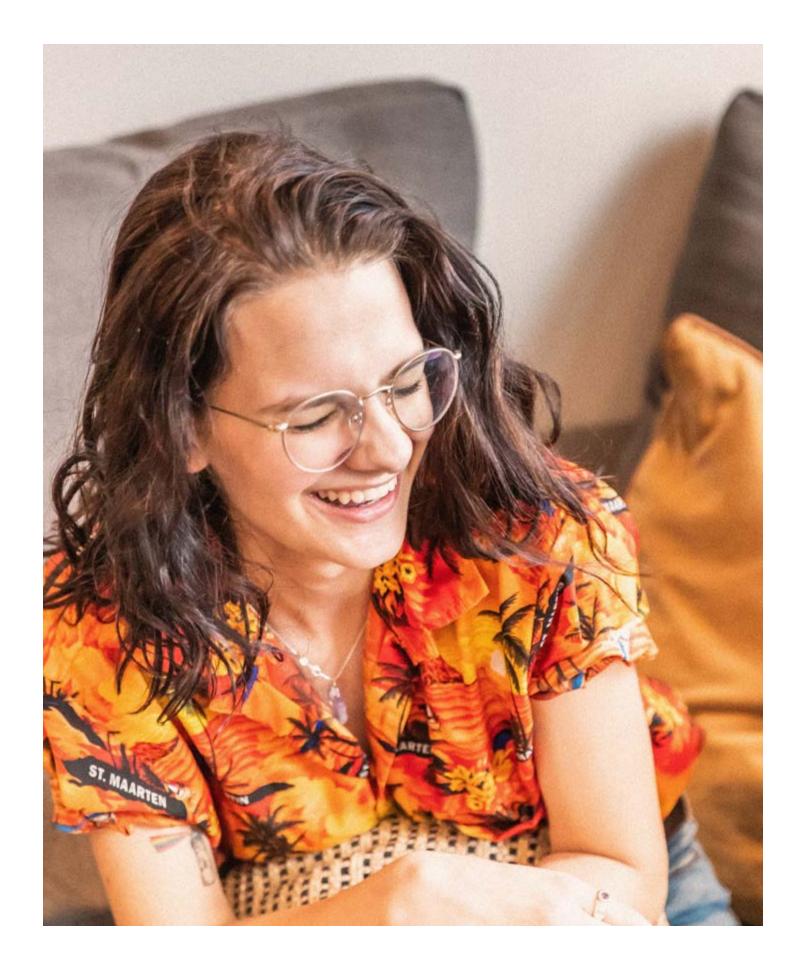
A weekly Wednesday opportunity for parents of LGBTQ+ children to share sorrows, regrets, loss, strengths, and successes over lunch. Lunch with Lisa will be held in-person in Provo beginning in September 2020 and also online for individuals preferring to participate via ZOOM.

#### CONNECT

A Tuesday evening speaker program held over ZOOM for parents and loved ones of LGBTQ+ youth to provide support to each other as they navigate their child's coming out process and beyond. Participation in this program has included up to 90 participants at a single session.







#### **GSA NIGHT**

Gender and Sexuality Alliance ("GSA") Night engages youth aged 12-18 from GSA and Queer-Straight Alliance ("QSA") clubs across Utah for a Wednesday evening program designed to foster connection and community among diverse student populations across the state. Participants in the program will come together weekly over ZOOM to engage in game nights, discussion groups, and workshops. The youth will take part in selecting the weekly topic and activity to ensure that the chosen activities are age-appropriate and reflect student interest and need.

#### **ENCIRCLE LIVE PODCAST SERIES**

Encircle has begun initial planning for a new weekly podcast series to promote a greater understanding of the Utah queer community and LGBTQ+ youth mental health. The podcast will decrease feelings of lost connection and belonging during Covid-19. Each episode will contain targeted, succinct, and affirming information for youth and their families to incorporate into everyday living.

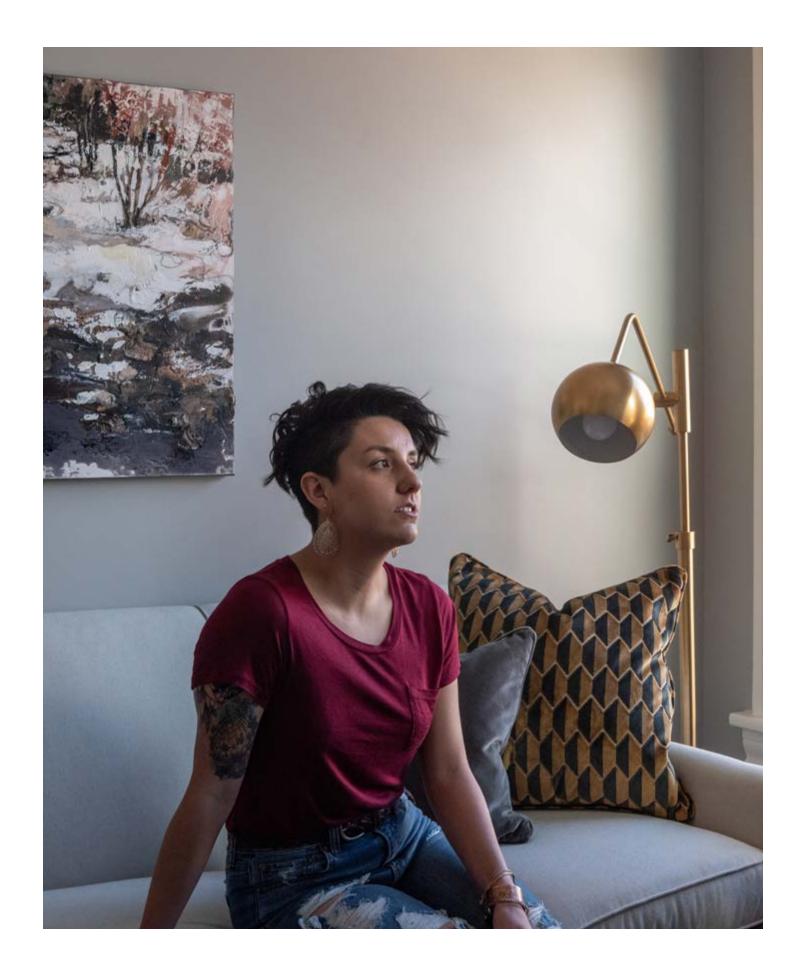
#### PEER-TO PEER DAILY FRIENDSHIP CIRCLES

Encircle hosts 12 Friendship Circles per week, which now includes a new Queer Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (QBIPOC) Friendship Circle, for adults (18+). Friendship Circles provide opportunities for sharing, connection, self-acceptance, and support through discussion of issues and experiences relevant to each group, often exploring the intersectionality of conservative cultures, religion, mental health, social issues, and loss. The Friendship Circles offer a safe space to help identify healthy, effective coping techniques to mitigate feelings of shame, angst, fear, pain, and loss.

80% of Friendship Circle attendees report attending 21+ times or more

96% of guests report feeling a sense of belonging and connection to other group members and themselves

22 groups hosted weekly across all locations in 2019



## Our Impact

Our core objectives are designed to afford LGBTQ+ youth, their families, and their communities the most critical components of a healthy emotional and mental life. These are:

#### 1. AUTHENTICITY

Humans thrive when they are working toward self-designed, meaningful goals.

#### 2. SOCIAL CONNECTION

Healthy social connections are consistently and positively associated with all indicators of psychological well-being.

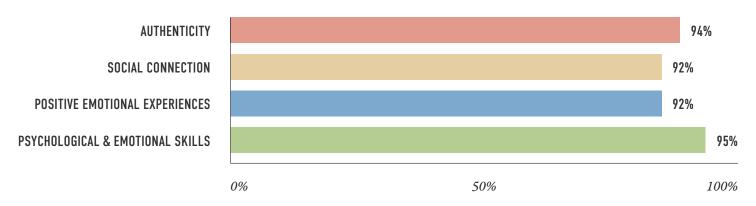
#### 3. POSITIVE EMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES

People who have positive emotions in their everyday lives tend to be happier and healthier, learn better, and get along well with others.

#### 4. PSYCHOLOGICAL & EMOTIONAL SKILLS

Skills like sharing emotions, countering negative thought patterns, and mindful acceptance of emotion all contribute to greater mental health and increased well-being.

# RESPONDENTS WHO AGREE OR STRONGLY AGREE THAT ENCIRCLE PROGRAMS ACCOMPLISH CORE OBJECTIVES





### **Our Partners**

Apple Inc. BNY Mellon Charitable Gift Fund LOVELOUD Foundation David Kelby Johnson Memorial Foundation Marriott Daughters Foundation The Drake Bettner Foundation Aetna TisBest Philanthropy B.W. Bastian Foundation Walmart Giving Diane Warnock Family Charitable Fund Lawrence & Janet Dee Foundation Miller Family Philanthropy Gatehouse no. 1 The WayOUT LGBTQ Foundation United West Title Insurance Agency The Kahlert Foundation Senzee Family Fund Utah County CARES Discover Nonprofit Grant Program Kulynych Family Foundation II Dominion Energy The John C. Kish Foundation Charitable Foundation Willard Eccles Foundation Nuskin Weyerhaeuser Giving Fund The Huntsman Foundation E. Rhodes & Leona Washington County Utah Carpenter Foundation Adobe Inc. Hemingway Foundation Dancing Llama Foundation **UPS** Foundation State of Utah Google AT&T Foundation Matthew Driggs Family Limited Partners Intermountain Healthcare (IHC Health Services) Vanguard Charitable The Starbucks Foundation Microsoft Chevron Salt Lake Refinery Goldman, Sachs & Co. LLC. The Sam & Diane Stewart Gold Key Realty Inc Family Foundation

Grand Lodge Charity Foundation Hansen Sisters Foundation Intermountain Community Care Foundation Community Giving Lexus Pursuit of Potential Liahona Academy for Youth Marathon Pétrole Corporation Pluralsight Preston Grant Estate Sentry Financial Corporation The Discover Brighter Futures Fund The Emergent Fund (Amalgamated Foundation) The Jeffrey & Helen Cardon Foundation The Will Ascend Foundation Visa Inc. Meridian Insurance Utah Medical Association Foundation BD Block Restaurant Group Magicspace Entertainment Schwab Charitable Fund Ancestry Select Health The John N and Karen B Gardner

Charitable Fund

The LGBTQ Community Endowment Fund at the UCF American Express Company Ebay Equitable Merrill Lynch Utah Valley Hospital **Bungie Foundation** Nice and Easy Bartending Company Colin Lewis Campbell Charitable Fund Qualtrics Underbelly Creative Twitter Fortress Investment Group Salesforce Frontstream Geneva Rock Products Linderman Family Fund Northrop Grumman Foundation State Farm Companies Foundation The Fox Foundation Cambia Health Solutions Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation Jerry R. Anderson Construction LLC The Beckham Ashe Foundation Estee Lauder Companies Connected 2 Therapy Corning Incorporated Foundation Deseret Trust Company edXponential, LLC HCA Caring for the Community

**Jive Communications** Kacey Foundation L<sub>3</sub> Technologies Masonic Foundation of Utah Nature Conservancy Planned Parenthood Association of Utah The Collin Lewis Charitable Fund The Education Architect, LLC. The Susan A. And Donald P. Babson Charitable Foundation The Utah Bears Inc. Vivint Gives Back United Way of Salt Lake FIG LLC Melville Inc Alibi Lounge LLC Raytheon T-Mobile Wasatch Mental Health Snow College LTI Maintenance LLC Deseret Management Corporation Community Foundation of Utah David Bohnett Foundation Eva Carlston Academy LLC Making a Difference Foundation Painter Family Foundation Patent Law Works LLP UJET Utah Association of School Psychologists

WarnerMedia Templin Family Brewing Washington Country Board of Realtors Target Corporation United Way of Central and Southern ChargeItPro Inc Beans and Brews Dayton Foundation GLAAD Inc. Utah Pride Center **Epic Brewing Company** Tinwell Kodiak Cakes Stewarts Pest Control Western Region Division of Child and Family Services Arturus LLC Mckinsey Your Cause, LLC Fresh Wata Ayco Charitable Foundation Expedia Salt Lake Goodtime Bowling League The Shallenberger Family Foundation Healthequity, Inc. Davis Wright Tremaine LLP Global Impact Holland & Hart LLP Kim Mascherino Giving Fund



### Our Team



STEPHENIE LARSEN Founder & CEO She/Her



JACOB DUNFORD Chief Operating Officer He/Him



Chief Development Officer



He/Him



KENT CAROLLO Marketing Director He/Him



**CAMLYN GIDDENS** Community Engagement Coordinator | Provo | She/Her



**ADAM WHITE** Programs Director He/Him



LAKSHAN LINGAM Executive Asst. Operations They/Them



**ERIK JORGENSON** BookeeperHe/Him



**CHRISTINE MASON** Development Officer She/Her



RICHARD BINGHAM Director of Expansion He/Him



**WILLIAM BATES** Chief Legal Officer He/Him



JARED KLUNDT, PH.D Clinical Director He/Him



JORDAN SGRO

Chief Program Officer

She/Her

AMBER MCMILLAN Chief of Staff She/Her



**CHLOE AGYIN** Home Director | SLC They/Them



**BROOKE JORGENSON** 

Donation Relations Manager

She/Her

**SEAN ALLSOP** Community Gifts Manager He/Him



**MEGAN MERRILL** 

Member Experience Rep.

She/Her

MARILYN TAYLOR Events Coordinator She/Her



**ALISON DAY** People & Culture Coordinator She/Her



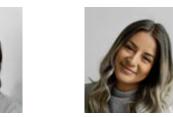
**GENEVA SOULIER** Art Curator She/Her



**JULIE BENSON** Home Director | St. George She/Her



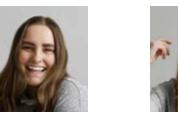
ANNA PRESTON Asst. Home Director St. George She/Her



ANA CHAVARRI Home Director | Provo She/Her



MADELEINE ELIASON Asst. Home Director | Provo She/Her



**GENTRY WHITE** Account Donor Rep. She/Her



**DEVIN PRESTON** Executive Asst. Operations She/Her



DANNY VAZQUEZ Graphic Designer He/Him



HEATHER MANAVEL Development Officer | Idaho She/Her

## Our Board



CURTIS ANDERSON, ESQ.





JENN ARMSTRONG-SOLOMON



BRUCE BASTIAN







ALLISON PHILLIPS BELNAP





JARED SANDBERG TURNER



ROB BROUGH





CLINT FORD





MICHELLE SMITH





Y. NIKKI WALKER



BARB YOUNG



MIKE LEVINTHAL



ROGER MCOMBER



RICO NELSON



MIKE OSTERMILLER

# Financial Summary

#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION SUMMARY

YEAR	TOTAL ASSETS	TOTAL LIABILITIES	TOTAL NET ASSETS
2017	\$400,159.00	\$17,375.00	\$382,784.00
2018	\$2,083,411.00	\$161,745.00	\$1,921,666.00
2019	\$2,387,717.00	\$64,235.00	\$2,323,482.00
2020	\$3,273,442.00	\$91,562.00	\$3,181,880.00

### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

YEAR	REVENUES	EXPENSES	CHANGE IN NET ASSETS
2017	\$518,114.00	\$325,244.00	\$192,870.00
2018	\$2,274,050.00	\$717,880.00	\$1,556,169.00
2019	\$1,981,496.00	\$1,280,616.00	\$437,558.00
2020	\$2,387,730.00	\$1,509,465.00	\$878,265.00

#### **ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES**











ENCIRCLETOGETHER.ORG

Encircle encourages LGBTQ+ youth to practice self-acceptance and express themselves without fear of ridicule, discrimination, bullying, or harassment. Our programs are designed to foster connection, the greatest protective factor for mental illness and suicide.

With your help, we can continue to bring the family and community together to enable LGBTQ+ youth to thrive. Please visit ENCIRCLETOGETHER.ORG/DONATE