



---

P.O. Box 6743  
Portland, OR 97228-6743  
[www.pflagpdx.org](http://www.pflagpdx.org)

February 20, 2015

In response to the community outcry against Ambridge Event Center's initial denial of rental space to PFLAG Portland Black Chapter, the Ambridge Center has apologized and offered to host our event free of charge. As an organization that works to create a dialogue around respect, acceptance, and inclusion we are pleased that we have been able to work with the Ambridge Event Center and move forward amicably.

The Ambridge Event Center shared that the employee that denied our application went against their policies and values which include a commitment to inclusiveness. The Manager apologized for the misconduct of their staff and the hurt it has caused and has committed to update and publish their policies to affirm their compliance with local a state law and that their company is dedicated to being an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer and venue. In addition, all staff will be required to undergo training to minimize the possibility of this happening again.

PFLAG Portland Black Chapter is committed to listening, sharing, learning, teaching, taking actions, and building bridges. We see this as an opportunity for all of those things we value, especially as a teachable moment and an opportunity to build bridges. The Ambridge Event Center has learned from this experience and we hope we all will continue to learn as we progress on our journey in living up to our values.

We want to extend a huge thanks to our community that has continued to support us in all our efforts and events; and provided a huge amount of support in this from the beginning. We received countless love and affirmations that reminded us that we are truly all invested in this together. Special thanks to the City of Portland, the Office of Neighborhood Involvement, Basic Rights Oregon, Commissioner Loretta Smith and Multnomah County Commissioners, Misha Isaak, and our invaluable Steering Committee who were instrumental in guiding us to a resolution we all can be proud of.

Thank you all so much for your support of our Black LGBTQ community and for your support of PFLAG Portland Black Chapter. We hope to see you at our Anniversary Celebration on April 24th at the Ambridge Event Center.

Khalil Edwards  
PFLAG Portland Black Chapter