

MEMORANDUM

To: Interested Parties

From: American Accountability Foundation

Date: June 17, 2024

Re: **PhRMA is Funding the Radical LGBTQ Agenda**

The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers Association of America (PhRMA) is a 501(c)6 trade association representing the pharmaceutical industry in the United States. While PhRMA is reputed for contributing to right-of-center, pro-business groups, comparatively little attention (likely due to the liberal bias of investigative reporters) has been paid to the vast network of left-wing or liberal groups that PhRMA funds.

While PhRMA has contributed to a wide-array of left-leaning groups, most troubling is PhRMA's support for organizations that are pushing to advance the LGBTQ agenda. PhRMA's support for LGBTQ groups spans from the now-notorious Trevor Project, which provides counseling to teenagers on gender transitioning without parental consent, to state transgender groups, to groups that sponsor drag shows, to groups that host "pride" events. These contributions, totaling over \$720,000 from 2017 to 2022, show that PhRMA is complicit in advancing the radical LGBTQ agenda in America.

These groups include:

- Equality California, which supported bills in California requiring teachers undergo "LGBTQ+ cultural competency training" and a bill that would require a parent's affirmation of child's gender identity be considered during child custody decisions.
- The American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, which publishes a "Facts for Families" guide on "Transgender and Gender Diverse Youth" that provides guidance on medical and surgical gender transitioning.
- Diversity Richmond, which sponsors events such as "drag bingos."
- The Human Rights Campaign, which pushes the LGBTQ agenda in workplaces and schools.
- The LGBTQ Victory Institute, which aims to place LGBTQ individuals in presidential appointments.
- The Trevor Project, which offers counseling on gender transitions without parental consent to teenagers.
- The Maine Transgender Network, which opposed a bill to establish a rating system for books in school libraries and opposed a bill to allow only female students to participate in girls' school sports.
- The Center for Black Equity, which sponsors black LGBTQ pride events and brands itself as "an alternative to the largely white mainstream LGBTQ+ movement."



PhRMA is Funding the Radical LGBTQ Agenda

PhRMA Supports the Radical LGBTQ Agenda

The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) is a large 501(c)6 trade association that represents the pharmaceutical industry. While it is expected that PhRMA would donate to groups that help the pharmaceutical industry, the American Accountability Foundation’s research has found that beyond that type of normal lobbying activity, PhRMA is funding a far-left agenda that is corrosive to American values and the American way of life.

PhRMA’s support of groups advancing the LGBTQ agenda has been particularly pronounced. Our research has found that PhRMA has contributed at least \$720,000 to pro-LGBTQ groups.

These groups include:

- Equality California, which supported bills in California requiring teachers undergo “LGBTQ+ cultural competency training” and a bill that would require a parent’s affirmation of child’s gender identity be considered during child custody decisions.
- The American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, which publishes a “Facts for Families” guide on “Transgender and Gender Diverse Youth” that provides guidance on medical and surgical gender transitioning.
- Diversity Richmond, which sponsors events such as “drag bingos.”
- The Human Rights Campaign, which pushes the LGBTQ agenda in workplaces and schools.
- The LGBTQ Victory Institute, which aims to place LGBTQ individuals in presidential appointments.
- The Trevor Project, which offers counseling on gender transitions without parental consent to teenagers.
- The Maine Transgender Network, which opposed a bill to establish a rating system for books in school libraries and opposed a bill to allow only female students to participate in girls’ school sports.
- The Center for Black Equity, which sponsors black LGBTQ pride events and brands itself as “an alternative to the largely white mainstream LGBTQ+ movement.”

Equality California

PhRMA contributed \$15,000 to a group named Equality California in 2017, their IRS Form 990 reveals:

Name	EIN	IRC Section	Amount	Purpose	Year
Equality California	95-4708781	501(c)4	\$15,000	General Contribution	2017



PhRMA is Funding the Radical LGBTQ Agenda

Equality California supports a wide range of legislation at the federal and state levels that further the LGBTQ Agenda, such as a bill requiring teachers to undergo LGBTQ cultural competency training and a bill requiring child custody and visitation decisions to account for parents' affirmation of a child's gender identity:¹

AB 5 (Zbur): Safe and Supportive Schools Program

AB 5 will require teachers and school staff serving grades 7-12 to complete one hour of LGBTQ+ cultural competency training, with a sunset after 5 years. The bill will provide teachers and staff with the tools and training they need to support LGBTQ+ students and make California schools safer and more supportive for all students.

Status: Signed into law by Governor Newsom on September 23, 2023.

AB 957 (Wilson): TGI Youth Empowerment Act

AB 957 will update California law to clarify that, for the purposes of child custody and visitation decisions, a parent's affirmation of a child's gender identity or gender expression is an essential factor that must be considered in determining the best interest of the child. Family acceptance of LGBTQ+ youth is a crucial protective factor in combatting depression and can drastically reduce rates of suicide.

Status: **Vetoed by Governor Newsom on September 22, 2023.**

The Los Angeles LGBT Center

PhRMA has contributed \$105,000 to the Los Angeles LGBT Center since 2018.

Name	EIN	IRC Section	Amount	Purpose	Year
Los Angeles LGBT Center	95-3567895	501(c)3	\$20,000	General Contribution	2018
Los Angeles LGBT Center	95-3567895	501(c)3	\$10,000	General Contribution	2019
Los Angeles LGBT Center	95-3567895	501(c)3	\$25,000	General Contribution	2020
Los Angeles LGBT Center	95-3567895	501(c)3	\$25,000	General Contribution	2021
Los Angeles LGBT Center	95-3567895	501(c)3	\$25,000	General Contribution	2022

¹ Equality California, [Legislation](#)



PhRMA is Funding the Radical LGBTQ Agenda

The Los Angeles LGBT Center² has portrayed parents opposed to certain LGBTQ educational policies as right-wing extremists. The Center's article “How Los Angeles Became the Newest Target in the War on LGBTQ+ Education” discusses a perceived increase in anti-LGBTQ+ sentiment in Southern California, specifically criticizing parental resistance as a “far-right” effort to undermine inclusive education.³

Schools across the country are witnessing a surge in discriminatory policy and harmful rhetoric targeting LGBTQ+ youth—and unfortunately, southern California is no stranger to hate. Since the beginning of the summer, right-wing extremists have protested queer and trans inclusion at school board meetings for the Glendale and Los Angeles Unified School Districts. Over the same time span, the Chino Hills, Murietta, and Temecula Valley Unified School Districts have all adopted policies forcing teachers to out trans students to their parents.

These controversies are best understood as part of a far-right campaign to radicalize schools and strip away supportive resources for kids, and California parents say that it's making their children feel vulnerable in schools they always assumed were safe places. *Jane Owen, a Glendale mother who asked to be referred to by a pseudonym, has a child in second grade, and her youngest is entering Kindergarten this year. She is terrified to send her kids to school after attending a school board meeting on June 20 in which conservative protesters, many of whom didn't have children in the district, clashed with supporters of the LGBTQ+ community over the district's decision to recognize Pride Month. The violence followed a similarly raucous meeting exactly two weeks earlier, resulting in at least four arrests between them...*

Gay & Lesbian Medical Association

PhRMA has contributed \$60,000 to the Gay & Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA) since 2017.

Name	EIN	IRC Section	Amount	Purpose	Year
Gay & Lesbian Medical Association	94-2901694	501(c)3	\$15,000	General Contribution	2017
Gay & Lesbian Medical Association	94-2901694	501(c)3	\$15,000	General Contribution	2018
Gay & Lesbian Medical Association	94-2901694	501(c)3	\$15,000	General Contribution	2019
Gay & Lesbian Medical Association	94-2901694	501(c)3	\$15,000	General Contribution	2020

GLMA is supportive of gender transition treatments and publishes a map on the states that have “gender-affirming care bans”:⁴

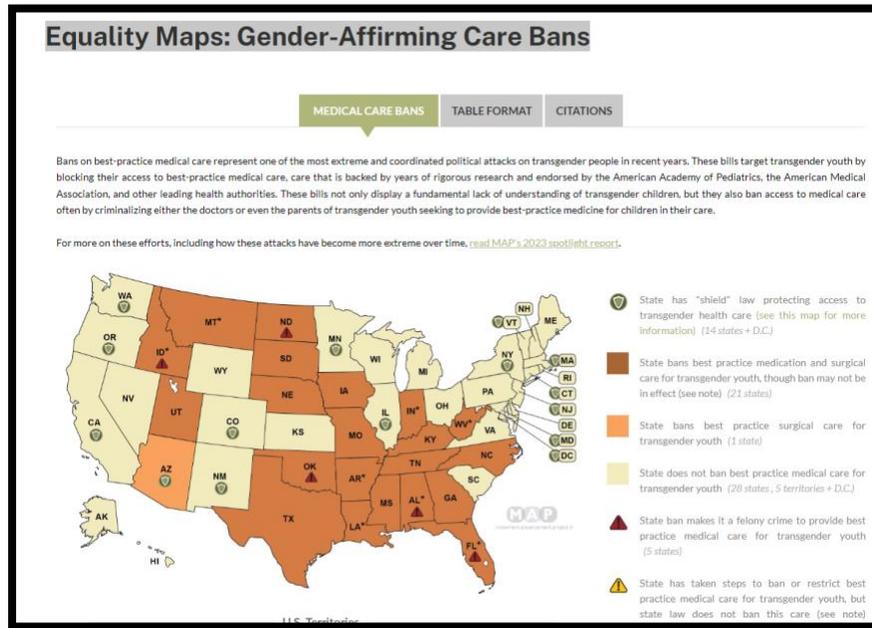
² |algbtcenter “|algbtcenter.org” Accessed on [November 20, 2023](#)

³ |algbtcenter “How Los Angeles Became the Newest Target in the War on LGBTQ+ Education” [September 12, 2023](#)

⁴ GLMA “Equality Maps: Gender-Affirming Care Bans” [November 1, 2023](#)



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American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP)

PhRMA has contributed \$20,000 to the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) since 2017.

Name	EIN	IRC Section	Amount	Purpose	Year
AACAP	13-1958990	501(c)3	\$10,000	General Contribution	2017
AACAP	13-1958990	501(c)3	\$10,000	General Contribution	2018

AACAP provides a "Facts for Families" guide on "Transgender and Gender Diverse Youth" that provides guidance on medical and surgical gender transitioning:⁵

...Sometimes children take steps to transition from their assigned gender to their affirmed gender. This is called *transitioning*. Social transitioning refers to a change of gender roles, expressions, name, and pronouns. **Medical transitioning refers to the use of medication to help their body better match their gender identity. Medications can pause some of the physical changes that happen with puberty. Surgical transitioning refers to the use of surgery to match one's body and gender identity. Surgery is not an option until late adolescence and adulthood.** If transitioning is something

⁵ American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, "Transgender and Gender Diverse Youth," [May 2020](#)



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your child is wondering about, you can explore options with a medical professional who is knowledgeable in this area. These treatments are different from conversion therapy which attempts to force gender identity to match assigned gender. Conversion therapy is not based on evidence and is harmful to the child and their relationship with their parents...

Latino Commission on AIDS

PhRMA has contributed \$61,000 to the Latino Commission on AIDS since 2017.

Name	EIN	IRC Section	Amount	Purpose	Year
Latino Commission On Aids	13-3629466	501(c)3	\$6,000	General Contribution	2017
Latino Commission On Aids	13-3629466	501(c)3	\$15,000	General Contribution	2018
Latino Commission On Aids	13-3629466	501(c)3	\$10,000	General Contribution	2019
Latino Commission On Aids	13-3629466	501(c)3	\$10,000	General Contribution	2020
Latino Commission On Aids	13-3629466	501(c)3	\$10,000	General Contribution	2021
Latino Commission On Aids	13-3629466	501(c)3	\$10,000	General Contribution	2022

The Latino Commission on AIDS is supportive of Drag Shows, stating in 2022 that:⁶

...Still, the Latino Commission on AIDS is taking a necessary and proud stance with the drag community. Drag artists have been at the forefront of challenging harmful gender stereotypes and have amplified HIV education throughout the history of the epidemic while contributing to spaces of joy and community healing.

“The drag community has used its platform to fundraise for our cause. Many kings and queens have taken public stands against HIV stigma, while drag shows have continuously provided local programs space for HIV testing and education. Drag shows are just the latest targets for anti-LGBTQ lawmakers, who have no idea how liberating a drag show can be. Now is the time for the HIV community to give back to one of our strongest allies by speaking up against the harmful bills, protests, and homophobic/transphobic rhetoric targeting this community.” says Edric Figueroa the director of Zero Campaigns at the Latino Commission on AIDS...

⁶ Latino Commission on AIDS, “Latino Commission on AIDS Statement in Solidarity with Drag Artists,” [November 30, 2022](#)



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Gender Justice Nevada

PhRMA contributed \$7,000 to Gender Justice Nevada in 2019.

Name	EIN	IRC Section	Amount	Purpose	Year
Gender Justice Nevada	45-4022033	501(c)3	\$7,000	General Contribution	2019

Gender Justice Nevada provides “Ally Training” to organizations and businesses, which includes instruction on issues such as pronouns and “affirming culture” in “paperwork and policies”:⁷

Goals For Ally Training:

- ✓ Providers will have accurate and updated definitions about (LGBTQ+) communities.
- ✓ Give context about identities in our community and why respect towards those identities is important. This includes pronouns and terminology.
- ✓ Provide a safe and non-judgmental space for providers/ employees to learn and create dialogue about bettering services for LGBTQ+ people.
- ✓ Discuss creating an affirming culture within your organization for clientele and employees. This includes imagery, paperwork and policies.

Diversity Richmond

PhRMA gave \$6,000 to Diversity Richmond in 2021.

Name	EIN	IRC Section	Amount	Purpose	Year
Diversity Richmond	31-1669279	501(c)3	\$6,000	General Contribution	2021

Based in Richmond, Virginia, the group supports LGTBQ events, such as Drag Bingos that feature drag performances from individuals named “Grace Wetpants”:⁸

⁷ Gender Justice Nevada, [“LGBTQ Ally Training”](#)

⁸ Instagram, @diveristryrichmond, Post from [November 30, 2023](#)



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Human Rights Campaign and Human Rights Campaign Foundation

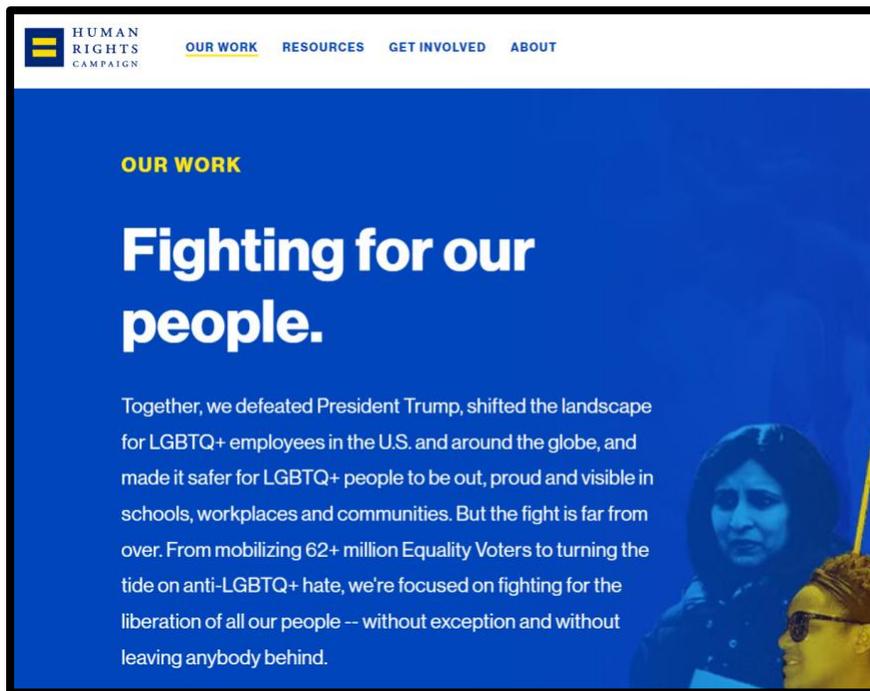
PhRMA has contributed a combined \$192,000 to the Human Rights Campaign and Human Rights Campaign Foundation since 2017.

Name	EIN	IRC Section	Amount	Purpose	Year
Human Rights Campaign Inc	52-1243457	501(c)4	\$32,000	General Contribution	2018
Human Rights Campaign Inc	52-1243457	501(c)4	\$20,000	General Contribution	2020
Human Rights Campaign Foundation	52-1481896	501(c)3	\$32,000	General Contribution	2017
Human Rights Campaign Foundation	52-1481896	501(c)3	\$25,000	General Contribution	2019
Human Rights Campaign Foundation	52-1481896	501(c)3	\$25,000	General Contribution	2020
Human Rights Campaign Foundation	52-1481896	501(c)3	\$25,000	General Contribution	2021
Human Rights Campaign Inc	52-1243457	501(c)4	\$35,000	General Contribution	2022



PhRMA is Funding the Radical LGBTQ Agenda

According to their website⁹, the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) PhRMA has boasted that “we defeated President Trump,” “shifted the landscape for LGBTQ+ employees in the U.S. and around the globe,” and that they are “focused on fighting for the liberation of all our people.”



The HRC Foundation published LGBTQ resources for schools, such as a “Checklist for a Gender Inclusive Classroom”:¹⁰

⁹ Human Rights Campaign, [Our Work](#)

¹⁰ HRC Foundation’s Welcoming Schools, [“Gender and Children: A Place to Begin”](#)



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Checklist for a Gender Inclusive Classroom

- **Use inclusive phrases** to address your class that are not gendered such as, "Good morning, everyone" or "Good morning, scholars" or choose and use a name for your class like the Dolphins or the Owls.
- **Develop classroom messages** that emphasize "All children can... (dance, cook, have short or long hair, do math, make art, etc.)"
- **Group students in ways that do not rely on gender** such as table groups, letters in their names or colors of their clothes. Avoid situations that force children to make gendered choices, such as boys line up here and girls line up there.
- **Provide role models.** Show a wide range of achievements and emotions for all people that move beyond gender-role stereotypes. [Read diverse biographies.](#)
- **Read books to your class** that teach about gender and breakdown stereotypes related to gender expression and gender identity.
- **Use lesson plans** designed to expand student's understanding of gender. Read books that encourage discussion of gender assumptions. Help students see the limitations of gender stereotyping. Ask your class to examine popular culture, advertising, or children's toys and books for gender stereotypes.



LGBTQ Victory Institute

PhRMA has contributed \$147,500 to the LGBTQ Victory Institute since 2018, IRS 990 data shows:

Name	EIN	IRC Section	Amount	Purpose	Year
LGBTQ Victory Institute	52-1835268	501(c)3	\$30,000	General Contribution	2018
LGBTQ Victory Institute	52-1835268	501(c)3	\$22,500	General Contribution	2019
LGBTQ Victory Institute	52-1835268	501(c)3	\$35,000	General Contribution	2020
LGBTQ Victory Institute	52-1835268	501(c)3	\$30,000	General Contribution	2021
LGBTQ Victory Institute	52-1835268	501(c)3	\$30,000	General Contribution	2022



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The LGBTQ Victory Institute prepares LGBTQ candidates to run for office, as well as houses the “Presidential Appointments Initiative” which “works to place openly LGBTQ+ appointees in pro-equality presidential administrations”:¹¹

*...LGBTQ+ Victory Institute was launched as Victory Foundation in 1993 to begin training current and future LGBTQ+ candidates and campaign workers to ensure a successful career in public service. **LGBTQ+ Victory Institute expanded its programming to include the Presidential Appointments Initiative – which works to place openly LGBTQ+ appointees in pro-equality presidential administrations** – and the International LGBTQ+ Leaders Conference, an annual conference that attracts hundreds of openly LGBTQ+ elected and appointed officials...*

The Trevor Project

PhRMA contributed \$10,000 to The Trevor Project in 2021.

Name	EIN	IRC Section	Amount	Purpose	Year
The Trevor Project Inc	95-4681287	501(c)3	\$10,000	General Contribution	2021

The Trevor Project provides information to minors about gender transitions and offers counseling without parental consent.¹²

We may also make a report to an appropriate party, and make any disclosures we reasonably believe necessary, to prevent another person’s death or serious injury. Unless otherwise required by applicable law (including in response to a subpoena that we reasonably believe is valid), we will not disclose personal or sensitive information to parents, legal guardians, or other individuals.

Additionally, former Biden Administration Department of Energy official Sam Brinton previously led The Trevor Project’s advocacy and government affairs efforts.¹³

¹¹ VictoryInstitute.org, About, “Mission”

¹² Trevor Project “Main Page” Accessed on [November 22, 2023](#)

¹³ Fox News, “Sam Brinton helped craft model school policy keeping parents in dark about kids’ gender change,” [December 15, 2022](#)



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Maine Transgender Network

PhRMA contributed \$10,000 to the Maine Transgender Network in 2021.

Name	EIN	IRC Section	Amount	Purpose	Year
Maine Transgender Network Inc	87-0801370	501(c)3	\$10,000	General Contribution	2021

The Maine Transgender Network¹⁴ opposed a bill to establish a rating system for books in school libraries (LD 1008), opposed a bill to allow only female students to participate in girls school sports (LD 930), and opposed a bill to eliminate critical race theory, social and emotional learning, and DEI in school curricula (LD 618), among many others in the 2023 Maine legislative session.¹⁵

¹⁴ MaineTransNet "What We Do" Accessed on [October 22, 2023](#)

¹⁵ MainTrans.net, [Maine Legislature 2023](#)



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Equality Virginia

In 2021, PhRMA made a \$10,000 contribution to Equality Virginia.

Name	EIN	IRC Section	Amount	Purpose	Year
Equality Virginia Inc	54-1950205	501(c)3	\$10,000	General Contribution	2021

Equality Virginia Inc is an activist group advocating for LGBTQ+ rights, known for its criticism of prominent conservative Glenn Youngkin and his efforts to shield youth from gender and LGBTQ leftist ideology.

In a July 2023 press release, Narissa Rahaman, executive director of Equality Virginia, stated:¹⁶

"Today, Governor Youngkin and the VDOE made a dangerous, politically motivated decision to ignore the thousands of Virginians who submitted public comments opposing his proposed model policies – policies which single out transgender and nonbinary youth in our schools. Youngkin did all of this with no input from LGBTQ+ advocacy groups nor subject matter experts. Throughout the comment process, Virginians made it clear that LGBTQ+ youth deserve safety, respect, and the opportunity to thrive." Rahaman continued, "This comes on the heels of a scathing 18-month report released last week by JLARC detailing how Virginia is underfunding its K-12 public schools at a lower rate than national and regional averages. Instead of addressing the real issues, Governor Youngkin's response is to escalate a culture war and drop a policy that harms kids, removes resources for teachers, and ignores the rights of parents in Virginia."...

Center for Black Equity

PhRMA contributed \$50,000 to CBE-Pride in 2020. CBE-Pride stands for the “Center for Black Equity.”

Name	EIN	IRC Section	Amount	Purpose	Year
CBE-PRIDE	20-5933471	501(c)3	\$50,000	General Contribution	2020

The Center for Black Equity hosts “Black LGBTQ+ Pride Celebrations” and describes itself as “an alternative to the largely white mainstream LGBTQ+ movement.”¹⁷

¹⁶ Equality Virginia, “Equality Virginia: Youngkin Administration Targets LGBTQ+ Youth in Newly Released Virginia Department of Education Policies” Accessed On [November 27, 2023](#)

¹⁷ Center for Black Equity, [Black LGBTQ+ Prides](#)



PhRMA is Funding the Radical LGBTQ Agenda



The National LGBT Chamber of Commerce

PhRMA contributed \$25,000 to the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce in 2022.

Name	EIN	IRC Section	Amount	Purpose	Year
National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce	13-4219714	501(c)6	\$25,000	General Contribution	2022

The National LGBT Chamber of Commerce is a leading left-wing groups pushing the radical transgender agenda. In particular they are creating a divide between parents and children by floating bogus threats of suicide if parents do not subscribe to the trans agenda. Recently National LGBT Chamber threatened parents that if they do not call their child “ze” they’d kill themselves.¹⁸

*To best support TGX youth, parents especially should pay careful attention to the pronouns their child uses. Many TGX individuals use pronouns that are different than the ones commonly associated with their assigned sex at birth. To use someone’s stated pronouns is to validate their identity, lived experiences, and, most importantly, who they are at their core. **This can be a lifesaving act**, even if it appears miniscule. Parents must also recognize that their child may use a different name than the one they were assigned at birth.*

While they describe themselves as business group, the LGBT Chamber is clear that they’re in lock-step with the radical trans agenda.

¹⁸ National LGBT Chamber of Commerce, Supporting TGX Youth During Pride Month and Beyond, [June 7, 2021](#)

