

ANNUAL REPORT FY 2017



Safe Space NOVA is a tax-exempt organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Table of Contents

A Message from the Executive Director	3
In 2017 we...	4
Why Your Support Matters!	7
And A Special Thanks	8
2017 Board of Directors	9
Operations Team	10



Safe Space NOVA is dedicated to providing a safe, accepting, and supportive environment to combat social stigmas, bullying, and other challenges faced by LGBT+ youth.

“Safe Space NOVA is dedicated to providing a safe, accepting, and supportive environment to combat social stigmas, bullying, and other challenges faced by LGBTQ+”

A Message from the Executive Director



On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and our volunteers, I am proud to share the Safe Space NOVA's Annual Report highlighting our work and achievements this past year.

As the founder and the executive director of Safe Space NOVA, I wish to thank the student leaders and the countless volunteers that make our organization successful and who help tirelessly with our programs and services. Our second year was another outstanding year of growth Northern Virginia and the greater Washington, D.C. Metropolitan region.

In 2017, Safe Space NOVA reached new levels of achievement; our engagement with area schools and Gay Straight alliances (GSAs) continued to grow along with our social media presence. In 2017, Safe Space NOVA received two grants totaling \$20,000 in its role as community partner for the 2017 Regional HIV/AIDS Policy and Planning Summit, a first of its kind forum in the region that brought together healthcare providers from the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia together to focus on how to address HIV/AIDS disparities in the LGBTQ+ community and new developments in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Safe Space NOVA further increased individual donors through board contributions, the anniversary fundraiser at Freddie's Beach Bar, and Spring2ACTion, an Act for Alexandria initiative. Safe Space NOVA initiated new partnerships and expanded its outreach to schools in Loudon County through the Get Louder Project. These partnerships included working with NOVA Pride in support of the Annual NOVA Pride Festival at Bull Run Park in Manassas, where Safe Space NOVA increased its volunteer base to over 50 students and parents. Safe Space NOVA also created a dynamic weekly blog post entitled, "#TellYourStoryTuesday" to provide community members an opportunity to share their experiences growing up as an LGBTQ+ youth. As our mission states, Safe Space NOVA is dedicated to providing a safe, accepting, and supportive environment to combat social stigmas, bullying, and other challenges faced by LGBTQ+ and this is one way to achieve that mission. Internally we continued to improve operations, organization structure, office staffing and procedures.

For our LGBTQ+ and ally youth that we work with, the world is constantly changing and the struggles for safety are real. As an organization we commit to being urgent and responsive in addressing the needs of LGBTQ+ youth, particularly the voices that are often silenced or unheard. This annual report shares our commitment, outcomes of our work and highlights of the year.

Thank you for your support of Safe Space NOVA!

Sincerely

Jordan L. Costen

Jordan L. Costen
Executive Director & Founder

In 2017 we...

Helped to empower and inspire today's LGBTQ+ youth to become who they are

Safe Space NOVA was a sponsor of two gay proms in Northern Virginia. This included the NOVA Pride Prom and Bull Run Manassas proms that hosted over 100 students collectively. Information booths were set up at each prom and featured an array of nonprofits organizations, information of ways to advocate, and volunteer.



Gave community partners a way to join the movement

On January 22nd Safe Space NOVA participated in the NOH8 campaign photo shoot in Washington, D.C. The NOH8 campaign is a photographic silent protest created by celebrity photographer Adam Bouska and partner Jeff Parshley in direct response to the passage of Proposition 8.

Photos feature subjects with duct tape over their mouths, symbolizing their voices being silenced by Prop 8 and similar legislation around the world, with "NOH8" painted on one cheek in protest. Seven years since its inception, the NOH8 Campaign has grown to over 55,000 faces and continues to grow at an exponential rate.



We built and solidified community partners and lasting connections

On June 6th, Safe Space NOVA joined Loudon County students through the Get Louder Project on Acceptance Day. Acceptance Day was an opportunity to the LGBTQ+ community, and all other forms of diversity. Students in France also participated after hearing about the movement through social media.



Executive Director Jordan Costen and Dr. Jerome Hunt, Vice Chairman of the board of Directors for Safe Space NOVA sat down with 93.9 WKYS radio host EZ Street to talk about our important mission and the positive programming we are providing to the LGBT+ youth in Northern VA.

Lastly, Jordan and Dr. Hunt discussed the plight of transgender youth in the wake of the repeal of a President Obama era Executive Order addressing school bathroom use.



"The Get Louder Project hosted our first rally, to celebrate the LGBTQ+ community! Thanks to the SRMS Dance Team and Eli Pafumi for performing, and thanks to the parents that volunteered. Safe Space NOVA contributed to the event, and they promoted it as well; we are extremely grateful to Mr. Costen from Safe Space NOVA for attending and supporting the Rainbow Rally"

- Get Louder Project

In partnership with Chinquapin Park Recreation Center in Alexandria, VA, Safe Space NOVA presented Self Defense 101, a program geared toward teaching youth the importance of confidence, safety, fitness, and the associated social benefits of being engaged in your community. Learning new skills can bond people together and can help develop friendships.

Above all, the goal of the course was to increase youth's ability of to protect themselves in any situation they may encounter.



SAFE SPACE NOVA PRESENTS

SELF DEFENSE 101

JOIN US
FRIDAY, JUNE 16
4 PM - 5 PM



CHINQUAPIN PARK RECREATION CENTER
3210 KING STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22302

Email michelle@safespacenoVA.org for details

Safe Space NOVA Co-sponsored a host of community outreach events such as:

- Getting to Know Your LGBT Neighbor with Equality Loudoun
- NOVA Pride Festival 2017 with NOVA Pride
- Regional HIV/AIDS Policy and Planning Summit (RHAPPS) with the Alexandria Commission on HIV/AIDS, the AIDS Healthcare Foundation, and Gilead Sciences, Inc.
- World AIDS Day Reception with the Alexandria Commission on HIV/AIDS
- Power Noir Et Blanc Soiree with Project Briggs



Why Your Support Matters!

Statement of Activity

January - December 2017

REVENUE

	Total
Donation	31,205.80
Total Revenue	31,205.80
GROSS PROFIT	31,205.80
EXPENDITURES	
Advertising & Marketing Expenses	1,330.99
Bank Service Charges	324.77
Business Meeting Meals	315.70
Event & Conference Fees	14,238.10
Event Supplies	1,048.11
Legal & Professional Fees	
Accounting & Tax Prep Fees	800.00
Legal Fees	80.00
Total Legal & Professional Fees	880.00
Office Expenses & Software	2,007.24
PayPal Fees	200.29
Postage & Delivery	28.67
Rent Expense	261.00
Sponsorship of Event	510.00
Stationery & Printing	202.31
Subcontractors	50.00
Total Expenditures	21,397.18
NET OPERATING REVENUE	9,808.62
NET REVENUE	\$9,808.62

- 26% of LGBT youth say their biggest problems are not feeling accepted by their family, trouble at school/bullying, and fear of being out/open. (Source: HRC)
- 34.2% of LGB students reported being bullied on school property (Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Survey)
- 42.8% LGB students had seriously considered attempting suicide during the 12 months before the survey (Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Survey)

And A Special Thanks

Donor Gifts of \$5,000 or More

Pamela Jamieson
The AIDS Healthcare Foundation
Gilead Sciences, Inc.

Donor Gifts of \$1000 or More

Jordan L. Costen
Charles A. Sumpter, Jr.
Ambrose G. Sayles

Donor Gifts of \$400 or More

Jerome Hunt, PhD.
Daniel Sughrue

Donor Gifts of \$200 or More

Richard Bell, Esq.
Act for Alexandria
Kevin Allen
Richard Howard
John Sullivan
NOVA Pride

Donor Gifts of \$100 or More

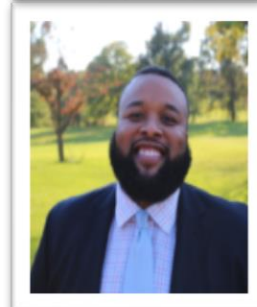
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2017 Board of Directors

Jordan L. Costen
Founder and Chairman of the Board



Jerome D. Hunt, PhD.
Vice Chairman



Charles A. Sumpter, Jr.
Secretary



Richard Bell, Esq.
Treasurer



Ambrose G. Sayles
Board Member



Operations Team

If you are interested in volunteering with our team or would like to partners with us, send an email to info@safespacenova.org. We look forward to the opportunity to work with you!

Jordan L. Costen
Executive Director

Yariana Rodriquez
Outreach Coordinator

Courtney Eiland
Website and Social Media Coordinator

Khyle Paylor
Social Media Correspondent

Cindy Snyder
Executive Assistant



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