

2024

# Annual Gratitude Report

North Idaho Pride Alliance



**Sam Koester**  
Board President



**Dr. Sarah Lynch**  
Executive Director

What a year!

In 2024, NIPA focused on expanding our capacity. Thanks to the generosity of donors and supporters like you, we achieved significant milestones. This year, Pride in the Park became our largest event yet, drawing nearly 3,000 guests and almost 70 vendors. Attendees gathered to exercise their constitutional right to peaceful assembly and celebrate Pride!

In addition to curating vibrant expressions of queer joy and remembrance in Coeur d'Alene, your support has empowered us to hire a dedicated Outreach Coordinator who is actively engaging with our community. We have proudly supported regional Pride events, from the historic first-ever Pride in Bonners Ferry to the Palouse, Western Montana for Libby Pride, and Spokane Pride. We've also made our presence known at vital non-Pride events, such as the St. Vincent de Paul Housing Resource Fair, the Suicide Prevention Action Network 5K, and North Idaho College's Health and Wellness Fair, making our life-saving services increasingly accessible to those in need.

2024 marked the launch of Queer Connects, a monthly networking social designed to foster connections, support local allied businesses, and empower nonprofits through food and clothing drives. Together, we are building a more inclusive and compassionate community. In addition, NIPA consistently responded to service referral requests—including medical and mental health care and legal assistance—at an average rate of two per month. In June, the organically ally-led fundraiser "Thanks, Paul!" provided a critical morale boost for our entire community. Finally, in 2024, we mobilized volunteers to form a grants team, enabling us to pursue more opportunities for much-needed funding.

At NIPA, we firmly believe in the power of unity. Our collective strength has led to significant advancements for the LGBTQIA+ community in North Idaho. The unwavering support from our allies, dedicated volunteers, and generous donors has been instrumental in our successes. We deeply appreciate each and every one of you, and together, we will continue to make a remarkable impact.

In 2024, our volunteers and donors truly emerged as the real rockstars. Their generosity enabled us to make a significant leap towards securing NIPA's long-term financial stability through the creation of our Pride Endowment Fund. This exciting development signals to our community that we have matured as a nonprofit organization and are committed to staying for the long haul!

NIPA's primary goal at this juncture is financial sustainability. While we are immensely grateful for the growth we've witnessed over the years, it's vital to ensure these funding streams remain steady moving forward. We recognize that the recent changes in our nation's political landscape will make our work more challenging, especially here in North Idaho, where the Idaho Legislature continues to blatantly attack LGBTQIA+ civil rights. Despite these challenges, we remain hopeful and are actively fostering new relationships with donors, businesses, and organizations in our region to ensure we can continue our critical work. This is why the creation of our Pride Endowment is so important for our small nonprofit – solidifying our existence for years to come.

If you feel moved to contribute, gifts to the North Idaho Pride Alliance can be made online through our donation platform, Zeffy, or by mailing a check. Donations can also be made directly to our endowment via the Innovia Foundation website. For further information, please visit: [www.nipridealliance.com/donate](http://www.nipridealliance.com/donate). Please remember, that all contributions to the North Idaho Pride Alliance are tax-deductible. EIN: 81-3072032.



Your incredible generosity and unwavering support for the North Idaho Pride Alliance touch our hearts profoundly. With your help, we can continue to provide essential support and nurturing programs for all LGBTQIA+ individuals in North Idaho. Your commitment ensures that everyone can experience a positive and safe environment where they can truly thrive. We are deeply grateful for your kindness—thank you for standing with us!

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Board President

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# PROTECT DRAG IN IDAHO

The North Idaho Pride Alliance supports drag in Idaho. Drag is an artistic expression of feelings, personas, and culture, with the purpose of entertaining audiences in safe spaces. It is enjoyed by people of all ages, sexualities, gender expressions, and backgrounds.

As an LGBTQIA+ organization, we stand up and support drag performers locally, regionally, and nationally, and we're proud to "Support Drag in Idaho."

"**Drag** is not just a part of LGTBQ history, it is a part of our culture. To eradicate drag is an attempt to erase our heritage."

– Varla Jean Merman,  
aka Jeffery Roberson



# 2024 By The Numbers:

**Funds Raised:**

**Over  
\$120,000**

**Endowment  
Funds Raised:**

**Over  
\$69,000**

**Grants Earned:**

**Over  
\$30,000**

**New Donors:**

**22 New  
Donors**

# Advocacy Campaigns Supported:

**Over \$1,500**

Protect Drag In Idaho

**Over \$9,000**

Thanks, Paul.

## Event Sponsorships:

**Over \$11,000**

## CDA4Pride 2024 & Event Participation:

**~3,400 Individuals (Direct)**

**~35,000 (Indirect)**

## New Monthly Events:

**Queer Connections**



# Get Involved Today!



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<https://www.instagram.com/nipridealliance>

