



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 8, 2013

CONTACT: John Case, PFLAG Colorado Coalition | jmcase63@comcast.net | (970) 231-6216

Karen Adams, TYES | tyes.group@gmail.com | (720) 443-7708

**ALL COLORADO PFLAG CHAPTERS AND TRANSGENDER SUPPORT GROUP
SPEAK OUT ON BEHALF OF TRANSGENDER YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES**

Colorado State PFLAG Chapters and Trans-Youth Education and Support (TYES) offer personal words of support, educate Coloradans on issues regarding transgender youth

COLORADO—The seven PFLAG Chapters from the State of Colorado, together with Transgender Youth Education and Support (TYES), today issued the following statement of support to transgender and gender-variant youth, their parents, families, friends, neighbors, and educators:

“TYES is a group of 45 families living in urban, suburban, and rural areas across the great state of Colorado, from Ft. Collins to the New Mexico border, from the Western Slope to the front range. We are conservative and liberal, we attend different churches and temples with a variety of religious beliefs, and we cut across all socioeconomic lines. The one thing that unites us across our many diversities is our unconditional support of all families in Colorado—families just like ours—who have transgender or gender-variant children.

Our children are thriving socially, emotionally, and academically in Colorado public and private schools. From the classroom to the playing field, the restroom to the cafeteria, our children are finding that their peers, teachers, and school administrators are becoming less driven by unfounded fears, and more and more understanding of who our kids are as people. In fact, it has been our experience that once schools have received training in the unique challenges faced by our children—training which PFLAG chapters assist in providing at little or no cost to school districts and with no disruption to school activities—that the administrators and educators have been overwhelmingly supportive of our kids.

We know that with continuing education on the issues this support will continue, and our children and others just like them will continue to learn and thrive in our schools.

###

PFLAG is the original family and straight ally organization. Made up of parents, families, friends, and straight allies uniting with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, PFLAG is committed to advancing equality and acceptance through its mission of support, education and advocacy. Founded in 1972 with the simple act of a mother publicly supporting her gay son, PFLAG now has more than 350 chapters and 200,000 supporters crossing multiple generations of American families in major urban centers, small cities, and rural areas in all 50 states. To learn more, please visit www.pflag.org. And to learn more about PFLAG’s Colorado chapters, please visit www.pflagcolorado.org.

Trans-Youth Education and Support (TYES) is a satellite chapter of PFLAG Boulder County. TYES was formed in 2007 by a mother in an effort to find a friend for her six year old transgender daughter, to help her feel less alone in the world. Through TYES, families across the state of Colorado find the support, friendship and resources to support their child’s journey to authenticity that is uniquely their own. Learn more by visiting www.TYES-Colorado.org.