

Senior Rainbow News & Updates

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A Message From Our Chief Financial Officer



Jennifer Jonckheere, CFO/CTO

The Beginning of Senior Rainbow Assistance Program

In Feb 2019, three friends turned an idea into a nonprofit organization, the Senior Rainbow Assistance Program. We worked hard to put the building blocks of the organization together, and Senior Rainbow was officially granted 501(3)(c) status in April 2019. During 2019, we created our website and donor platforms in addition to adding volunteers and members to our board of directors. Ashley Conti joined our board of directors and will be in charge of our social media presence.

We have had two successful fundraising events, our Kick-Off Party in August and our GivingTuesday campaign in December. We want to thank all of our donors for their generous support. We are now able to start our first phase of programming!

We are currently finalizing our application for assistance. In addition, we have been busy networking with other social service agencies to introduce ourselves and get the word out that we are available to assist those in need of our services.

Looking ahead to 2020, Senior Rainbow is on schedule to officially launch programming in April. In 2019, we put together a strong program and we are excited to be able to provide needed assistance in 2020. We are also planning some exciting and new fundraising events throughout the year.

Happy New Year From the Executive Team

The executive team at Senior Rainbow decided to "roar" into 2020 and has made professional and personal new year resolutions. While browsing the web, we learned that approximately 40% of Americans make new year resolutions, but only 8% keep them and most have given up by January 12th! It's almost March, and we are determined to succeed. Did you make any resolutions this year?

Jessica resolves to raise awareness of our message and provide education on the needs that we know are there. She also would like to be more organized which will help her be tidier. She wants to be able to let go of things she doesn't use even if she thinks she might use it one day. Many of us can relate to that challenge!

Jennifer resolves to advance Senior Rainbow from a startup organization to a force in the community. In addition, she wants to continuing learning and put what she learns into practice.

Pat resolves to continue expanding her professional network and to read a minimum of ten books in 2020. She is on track having read two so far.

Word About Senior Rainbow Assistance Program is Spreading

AgeOptions is a nonprofit organization connecting older adults and those who care for them with resources and service options so they can live their lives to the fullest. AgeOptions also serves as the Area Agency of suburban Cook County. Their Aging and LGBT specialist will be including Senior Rainbow in their database of resources and we are very excited to have their assistance in educating those in need about our programs. For more information, visit <u>www.ageoptions.org</u> or call 800-699-9043

Services & Advocacy for LGBT Elders (SAGE) is a national advocacy and services organization that builds welcoming communities and keeps LGBT Elder issues in the national conversation to ensure a fulfilling future for all LGBT people. SAGE has been in service since 1978 and we at the Senior Rainbow Assistance Program are proud to be included in their National Resource Center on LGBT Aging Database. You can find us at <u>www.lgbtagingcenter.org/</u>and search "Senior Rainbow".

SAGE also provides a hotline, 877-360-LGBT (5428), which connects LGBT older people with friendly responders who are

- Certified in crisis response
- · Offer support without judgement
- · Answer questions factually and confidently

• Provide information about community support resources such as healthcare, transportation, counseling, legal services and emotional support programs.

Celebrating Black History Month With Pride

BlackPast.org, is an online reference center which makes available a wealth of materials on African American history. The vast and diverse collection of BlackPast.org has been referred to as the "Google" of African American History. In addition, "BlackPast.org brings the resources of African American history into every classroom in the world. It also makes every computer, regardless of its location, a classroom in African American history." We would like to highlight the special section which is dedicated to presenting the history of people of African descent who are LGBTQ. The section features the many contributions these individuals have made to both African American history and culture and American history and culture. You can find this page at https://www.blackpast.org/special-features/pride-uplifting-lgbtg-history-blackpast-org/

Amazon Smile

Now on the Amazon Shopping App

We heard that some of you have been having difficulty using Amazon Smile. Thank you for letting us know! Below are instructions you can follow using your computer. Another way is to add a shortcut on your phone when you search for Amazon Smile.

1	Make sure you have the latest version of the Amazon Shopping App	3	Tap in the main menu in the Amazon App	6	Follow the instructions on the screen to turn on AmazonSmile
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1. 2. 3.	Open the Google Play Store Tap the menu (≡) Tap on My apps & games	4	Tap Settings		All set! Tap the Start shopping button and support charity
4. 5.	Tap the Updates tab Update the Amazon Shopping App		Amazon Fresh See All Programs Settings		Success! Thank you for supporting charity!
2	Open the Amazon Shopping App		Customer Service		You can make changes to AmazonSmile on this device at any time by visiting Settings in the Amazon App.
	amazon	5	Tap AmazonSmile		Start shopping
			Notifications AmazonSmile	Comin	g soon on iOS. Stay tuned!

For those who do not have capability to add us from the App you can still do it from your computer. Please follow the steps below:

- 1. Go to https://smile.amazon.com
- 2. Log In to your Amazon account as normal
- 3. At the top of the page, Click on "Accounts and Lists"
- 4. In the last section named "Other Accounts", click on this link "<u>Change your Amazon</u> <u>Smile charity</u>"

If you select the Senior Rainbow Assistance Program as your charity, any purchases that you make on <u>Amazon.com</u> via their the AmazonSmile website, a percentage of your purchase will be donated directly to us.

We love feedback from our readers. Please reply to our newsletter and let us know what the Senior Rainbow Assistance Program means to you or how you think we can impact our community. Thanks and we are looking forward to hearing from you.

