

# Become a Participant in Guiding Social Enhancements for the Elder LGBTQ+ Community by Joining the SAGE of South Florida Board of Directors

Dear SAGE of South Florida Member:

Please consider joining the SAGE of South Florida Board of Directors and becoming an essential participant in guiding social enhancements for our elderly LGBTQ+ community.

**WHO WE ARE:** (Seniors Acting in a Gay Environment) SAGE of South Florida was founded in 1994 as a Florida “not-for-profit” corporation. (Federal tax-exempt status, 501(c)3, allows for tax-deductible donations as permitted by law and IRS regulations.)

**WHO WE SERVE:** According to a recent Gallop poll, 9% of the U.S. population identifies as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT). And despite being disproportionately affected by poverty and physical and mental health conditions due to a lifetime of unique stressors associated with being a minority, we are more likely to live alone, and more likely to be single and less likely to have children than our heterosexual counterparts. Our main goal is to combat isolation in the elderly gay and lesbian community.

## **WE ACCOMPLISH THIS BY PROVIDING:**

**Educational Programs of Interest:** On the first Saturday of each month, an informal luncheon is provided to all the members of SAGE of South Florida and their guests at a nominal fee. The luncheon takes place at the Herb Skolnick Community Center (800 SW 36th Ave.) in Palm Aire in Pompano Beach, FL. At each of these luncheons, speakers from the Community are invited to discuss a wide variety of topics of particular interest to our community.

## **Social Events and Activities:**

**SAGE/Prime Gentlemen Monthly Movie:** SAGE of South Florida, in partnership with the Fort Lauderdale Prime Gentlemen, hosts the monthly film series showing current movies of interest to our LGBTQ+ community.

**SAGE of South Florida’s Co-Ed Drop-in:** Feel like talking, joking, and just hanging out? SAGE drop-in sessions are just for you. The Monday SOBA meets in person at the Volen Center; Wednesday Men’s Drop-In in person and via Zoom; Thursday Co-Ed Drop-In via Zoom. A great way to spend a few hours, meet new friends, and get interested in our community.

**Book Discussion Group:** For those who love to read, you’ll particularly enjoy the monthly Book Club. Held in-person and via ZOOM at The Stonewall Library (1300 E. Sunrise Blvd.). A variety of books are discussed.

**Leaders of Tomorrow – SAGE of South Florida, Inc. Carl M. Galli Scholarship:** SAGE of South Florida Scholarship program awards scholarships annually to deserving students. Each year, the Scholarship Selection Committee chooses two applicants to receive scholarships of \$1,500 for full-time students or \$750 for part-time students.

**SAGE Friends:** We send appropriate get-well and sympathy cards to members and their partners when SAGE is informed.

**Other SAGE of South Florida Social Events:** Piano and Vocal Recitals; Dinner and Meet-Ups; Milestone Birthday, Valentine’s Day, and Holiday Parties.

## **WE HAVE SURVIVED:**

Throughout history, the LGBT+ community has endured many challenges: In the 1950s: The Polio Epidemic, bullying, and the McCarthy Hearings - In the 1970s: The Religious Right and Anita Bryant - In the 1980s: the AIDS Crisis - In 2015: The fight for same-sex marriage - In 2019: The COVID-19 pandemic, and many personal battles that have remained hidden. Through it all, we have survived with the help of loyal friends, supportive neighbors, and, importantly, community organizations like SAGE of South Florida.

*If interested in joining the Board, submit a letter of interest and brief resume to:*  
[sagesofl@gmail.com](mailto:sagesofl@gmail.com)