

POSITIVE IMAGES December 2023

Positive Images is in a new era and we are ready to come out.

Our Commitment

Based in Sonoma County, Positive Images is an LGBTQIA+ Community Center established in 1990. We provide support to the North Bay's LGBTQIA+ population, with an emphasis on identities and individuals at the margins – including transgender and nonbinary individuals, LGBTQIA+ people of color, Latiné families, neurodivergent people, and disabled people. We are dedicated to providing essential services that encompass mental health support, advocacy, and education.



Our Values

Community
Intersectionality
Accessibility
Creativity
Equity & Anti-Racism
Accountability
Liberation

Our Vision

Positive Images envisions a future where the LGBTQIA+ community in the North Bay thrives in an accessible and equitable environment. Recognizing the historical disparities and underrepresentation of marginalized communities within LGBTQIA+ spaces, we are committed to challenging these inequities head-on.

Our Vision (cont.)

Our vision extends beyond the conventional approach of LGBTQIA+ centers, as we actively practice anti-racism, cultivate culturally informed programming, offer training that promotes understanding and empathy, and relentlessly uplift identities that have long been marginalized, including transgender and nonbinary individuals, LGBTQIA+ people of color, Latine families, neurodivergent people, and disabled people.

We are driven by the belief that an inclusive community must actively work to dismantle barriers and increase access for everyone. Our vision is a future where every individual within the LGBTQIA+ community is not only accepted but celebrated.

LGBTQIA+ Therapy Fund

Positive Images (PI) and On the Margins (OTM) initiated their partnership in 2022 to launch the LGBTQIA+ Therapy Fund. This fund offers up to 12 sessions of mental health counseling and coaching to LGBTQIA+ communities from gender affirming and culturally responsive therapists and coaches at no cost to the client. Funding for this fund is supported through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. As of November, 2023, On the Margins has offered 169 sessions of individual counseling and coaching to LGBTQIA+ community members.

The mission of On the Margins is to collaborate with others to design and implement anti-racist, joy-focused, sustainable, and affirming practices.

The therapists and coaches at OTM are working to dismantle white-supremacist, heteropatriarchal, cisnormative, mononormative, and colonial practices as they exist within the therapy room. Their therapeutic practices include Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy, Interpersonal Therapy (IPT), Motivational Interviewing (MI), and Social Skills Training (SST). In their work, OTM honors clients' sociocultural identities, unique stories, lived experiences, and meet clients where they are in the growth and change process.



Meet our new staff



Kimi Barbosa, Executive Director (She/They)

Activist, Community Organizer, Non-Profit Change-maker, and DEIB Practitioner

Chase Overholt, Director of Development (He/They)

Public Speaker, Fund Development Specialist, Mathematician, and Author



Laura, Bilingual Bicultural Programs Manager (She/Her)

Photographer, Community Connector, Relationship Builder, and Trilingual Activist



Ronimar, Bilingual Community Navigator (They/Them)

Community Advocate, Mathematician, Proud Latine Bilingual Activist, and Creative Collaborator



Vanessa, Data and Trainings Coordinator (She/They)

Avid Learner and Educator, Writer, Artist, and Voracious Hobbyist



WELCOME BACK

Joy Anderson, TRANSLIFE Projects Coordinator (They/Them)

Positivity Advocate, Frog Lover, Community Connector, and Activist



Expanded Bilingual and Bicultural Programming

Over the past three months, our new Bilingual and Bicultural Programs team has created programming centered on fostering connections within communities and engaging with Latine Organizations. The Bilingual and Bicultural Program's focus on language accessibility and inclusivity has been instrumental in reaching out to diverse groups, establishing meaningful connections, and creating a supportive environment for LGBTQIA+ folks in the Latine community. We have partnered with On the Margins and La Familia Sana to bring brave spaces and LGBTQIA+ awareness and education to Cloverdale.

Experience our expanded programming and join us at our Marimba Workshop at Mitote Food Park, Roseland, CA on February 3rd from 2pm- 5pm.

QTBIPOC Hangout

We recognize the lack of spaces for Sonoma County's LGBTQIA+ communities of color to feel safe, seen, and belonging, PI's QTBIPOC (Queer, Trans, Black, Indigenous, People of Color) Hangout program is a monthly joy-centered social space for QTBIPOC adults in Sonoma County to connect with one another monthly. This program strives to offer experiences of personal, cultural, and community empowerment & exploration.

Our Place in Community

"These support groups have saved my life. I have been able to obtain valuable tools/ skills, meet people that care about me, and find a family at PI."

"I had been feeling isolated and had a need to see that I was not the only one and witness that we are more alike than we are different with shared experiences."

"PI helped me realize I am not alone."