

Gay/Straight Alliance Meeting Summary August 2008

Mission: “To create a more equitable and safe work environment for all employees through increased awareness and education about diversity, sexual orientation and gender identity”.

- Adopt a mile update – None given
- Graffiti Clean Up Update – None given
- Habitat Update – There will be no more build dates in Guadalupe. Habitat for Humanity anticipates a build in Chandler beginning in last September.
- Hydration Station Update – CEDA still wants to partner with the GSA but the details have yet to be worked out. Jay will follow up with Kent and work on collection sites and contact people at each site. We are planning to start sometime next month.
- Survey Results – The Diversity Department shared the results of the recent survey of GSA participants. There were 10 surveys submitted. Overall, we received some great feedback and an insight into the direction employees would like to see the GSA go. This led to a discussion of having a GSA Board and having Board meetings and then hosting events, we discussed the possibility of partnering with TPDC for a luncheon and bringing in a speaker. The idea of an employee dialogue group was discussed.
- Upcoming Social Event Planning - The GSA held their last social event on August 22nd at Cadillac Ranch. There was a good turnout; there was discussion of looking into another location for the next event.
- Roundtable – Training discussion – Gretchen from TLC attended the meeting to discuss the objectives for LGBT training in the organization. The group had a productive discussion on what the focus of the training should be, more legal and/or informative. It’s important for people within our organization to be included in the course development. Gretchen shared some history of training and the new legislature that will help define “mandatory” training. The GSA has defined four general objectives for the LGBT Training:
 - Legal
 - Understand what LGBT employees experience in the workplace
 - Transgender – definitions and transitioning in the workplace
 - How to demonstrate support
- Jay also shared an update and passed around a copy of the letter that has been sent to the RKGroup in response the Echo Magazine event.