

The goal is
to make your
family visible by
being active and
present

The Family Equality Council is the national advocacy organization committed to securing family equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer parents, guardians and allies. Our work consists of strategically linked initiatives—broad in scope, but simple in vision—love, justice, family, equality.

Get a jump start this week!

As parents, prospective parents, and busy family members we know it is hard to find the time to do much of anything besides change diapers, pack lunches, go to softball games and proofread homework. Nonetheless, our families have some needs that are paramount—health, happiness and safety. We must ensure that LGBTQ-headed families are recognized, respected, protected and celebrated! By taking small actions once-a-week, you will be making big changes for you and your family.

Put this on your fridge as a daily reminder to be OUTSpoken.

Make it a habit, make it fun and include your whole family. Thank you for being OUTSpoken!

- January 6 – 12 Make a 2008 Wish List for Equality and share it with your friends, neighbors and relatives!
- January 13 – 19 Download the revamped *Talking to Children about Our Families* publication and educate the children in your life about the makeup of our families.
- January 20 – 26 Martin Luther King Day: Commemorate this special holiday by volunteering in your community. Visit www.mlkday.gov.
- January 27 – February 2 Apply to be our Family of the Month at www.familyequality.org/familyofthemoth.
- February 3 – 9 National Children's Book Week: Donate an LGBTQ-inclusive book to your child's school library or volunteer to read one at your local public library's story hour.
- February 10 – 16 Make valentines with your family portrait for your friends, family and even your legislators!
- February 17 – 23 Presidents' Day: Write an open letter to President Bush about your family and what they mean to you. Send it to him and to your local newspaper as an op-ed.
- February 24 – March 1 Contact a local high school's gay straight alliance and offer your support.
- March 2 – 8 International Women's Day: Commemorate this day by taking part in a local event that celebrates prominent women's accomplishments. Visit www.internationalwomensday.com.
- March 9 – 15 Be an active voice with the PTA—go to meetings regularly, bring allies and speak out!
- March 16 – 22 Comment on our blog at www.familyequality.org/blog.
- March 23 – 29 Encourage your school or workplace to install trans-friendly bathrooms.
- March 30 – April 5 Suggest a video to be shown at your child's school that promotes inclusion and acceptance.
- April 6 – 12 Tell your family story to a complete stranger when he/she makes assumptions or asks questions. Examples may include a grocery clerk, bank teller, salesperson, etc.
- April 13 – 19 Have a Rainbow Painting Party! Invite your neighbors over for an arts and crafts hour. Explain the significance of the rainbow symbol to guests.
- April 20 – 26 Take Your Child to Work Day: Introduce your child to your co-workers and let them take part in your everyday routine.
- April 27 – May 3 Tell three friends about the Family Equality Council and the work we do by going to www.familyequality.org/action/tellafriend.html.
- May 4 – May 10 National Family Week: Write an Op-Ed to your local newspaper about your family and why legislation & policies should be written to include all kinds of family constellations.
- May 11 – May 17 Get involved in a local marriage initiative in honor of the Massachusetts same-sex marriage decision.
- May 18 – May 24 Become a transgender ally today! Visit the National Center for Transgender Equality's website at www.nctequality.org/52things.html to find out how.

May 25 – 31	Memorial Day: Educate your friends and co-workers about the military's discriminatory "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy.
June 1 – 7	Blogging for LGBT Families Day at Mombian.com: Write a post or leave a comment.
June 8 – 14	Invite other LGBTQ-headed families to plant flowers as a group at a veteran's or nursing home in your area.
June 15 – 21	Fill out the Rainbow Report Card and see how your child's school measures up. Visit www.familyequality.org/reportcard .
June 22 – 28	Write an op-ed to a mainstream parents' magazine, such as <i>Parenting</i> , about your life to increase the visibility of different family constellations.
June 29 – July 5	Independence Day: Host a neighborhood cookout and hand out Family Equality Council's At-a-Glance Series. Use this day to show the need for pro-family equality policy changes.
July 6 – July 12	Write a guest post on our blog at www.familyequality.org/action/guestblog.html .
July 13 – July 19	Parents' Day, sponsored by www.ParentsDay.com , is coming up. Nominate an LGBTQ parent for Parent of the Year!
July 20 – 26	Encourage your friends and family members to become OUTSpoken at www.familyequality.org/OUTSpoken.html .
July 27 – August 2	Educate the people around you about how we build our families.
August 3 – 9	Gear up for Election '08: Make sure everyone in your circle is registered to vote.
August 10 – 16	Get connected with other LGBTQ parents on www.MeetUp.com .
August 17 – 23	Host an LGBTQ-inclusive movie night. Discuss some of the issues that the film brings up.
August 24 – 30	Bring your family photo in to work and display it on your desk.
August 31 – September 6	Labor Day: Talk to your colleagues about non-discrimination policies and how they affect your family.
September 7 – 13	Grandparents' Day: Volunteer at a local nursing home and educate yourself on the issues faced by elderly members of the LGBTQ community at www.sageusa.org/resources .
September 14 – 20	Download <i>Heartsongs A Collection of Poetry Written by LGBTQ Families</i> and add it to your child's classroom library. Visit www.familyequality.org/resources/poetry .
September 21 – 27	Make "Great Ally Awards" and give them to the five people in your life who do the most to further family equality.
September 28 – October 4	Talk to your healthcare provider about why LGBTQ rights are critical to health.
October 5 – 11	National Family Equality Council Week of Action: Educate others on diversity and inclusivity.
October 12 – 18	Host an LGBTQ house party and invite your friends and neighbors. Talk about the issues that affect you and your family.
October 19 – 25	Build community and increase visibility this week. Get a group of LGBTQ families together for a museum trip.
October 26 – November 1	Family Equality Council Pumpkin Carving Contest: Send in a photo of your submission!
November 2 – 8	Vote! Set an example by taking your family to the booth with you.
November 9 – 15	Talk to your child's teachers about incorporating a more LGBTQ-inclusive curriculum.
November 16 – 22	Transgender Day of Remembrance: Commemorate this important day by educating yourself and others about the issues that affect the transgender community.
November 23 – 29	Print and bring <i>At-A-Glance: Our Extended Families</i> handouts to Thanksgiving dinner.
November 30 – December 6	Share your holiday family photo with us! Email it to info@familyequality.org .
December 7 – 13	International Human Rights Day: Learn about the plight of the LGBTQ community in other countries and what you can do to help at www.iglhrc.org .
December 14 – 20	Participate in a holiday activity with other LGBTQ and ally families.
December 21 – 27	Give the gift of family equality by making a donation to the Family Equality Council.
December 28 – January 3	Write and share an update letter about your family over the past year. Think about how things would be different if your family had the same rights as others'.