

# Safe Passage's Monthly news & updates June 2023



# Celebrating Pride Month with Unity and Solidarity

June is a time to honor and embrace the LGBTQIA+ community, their history, and their ongoing struggle for equality and acceptance. It's a month filled with love, empowerment, and visibility.

Pride Month holds a rich and significant history that commemorates the LGBTQIA+ community's journey towards equality and liberation. It traces its roots back to the Stonewall Riots of 1969 in New York City, where queer and transgender individuals fought back against police brutality and discrimination. This pivotal moment sparked a wave of activism and advocacy across the United States, leading to the establishment of Pride celebrations.

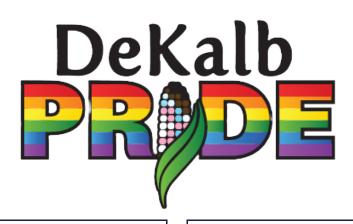
In Illinois, Pride Month has its own unique history and legacy. The state has been at the forefront of LGBTQIA+ rights, marked by significant milestones. In 1971, Chicago held its first Pride Parade, making it one of the earliest cities in the country to host such an event. The parade has since become an iconic annual celebration, attracting millions of participants and spectators.

Illinois has also made remarkable progress in legislation and legal protections. In 2005, the state became the first in the Midwest to pass a law banning discrimination based on sexual orientation. Later in 2011, Illinois legalized same-sex civil unions, and in 2013, it became the 16th state to legalize same-sex marriage.

Today, Pride Month in Illinois is a vibrant and inclusive celebration

of diversity, unity, and love. It serves as a powerful reminder of the ongoing fight for LGBTQIA+ rights and recognition, while also offering a space for joy, visibility, and solidarity. As we honor Pride Month in Illinois, we recognize the resilience and courage of those who have paved the way for progress and recommit ourselves to building a more inclusive society for all.

Join Safe Passage as we stand together, support diversity, and advocate for a world where everyone can be their authentic selves without fear or discrimination.



#### *Upcoming Events* □

6/21 Free *Major! Showing* Egyptian Theatre 7pm

6/22 DeKalb Pride Fest & March Van Buer Plaza 4:30pm-7:30pm

Free *Freak Show* Showing Egyptian Theatre 7pm

6/23 Rocky Horror Picture Show Egyptian Theatre 8pm For more information on DeKalb Pride and on how to support the committee, click the on the button below or scan the QR code!



**Dekalb Pride** 



\$75,820 RAISED

330 DONORS

What an incredible success for Give DeKalb County 2023!
Our community came together and generously donated a remarkable total of \$1,701,047 to support the 142 participating organizations. This outstanding contribution surpasses any previous record set during Give DeKalb County!

Safe Passage has exceeded our goal of \$65,000 by raising an incredible \$75,820! We are thrilled to announce that we ranked as the #2 organization with the highest number of donors during this remarkable event. Year after year, our dedicated staff and Board put in tremendous effort to rally our community for this vital community-wide initiative. We are truly grateful for the overwhelming support and enthusiasm shown by our generous donors. Together, we are making a significant impact in the lives of those we serve.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to the DeKalb County Community Foundation and the DeKalb County Nonprofit Partnership for orchestrating this impactful event. Your dedication and organization have enabled us to provide even greater assistance to our clients.

### **Upcoming**



SCAN ME TO BUY YOUR TICKETS



RUNSIGNUP.COM/RACE/IL/WATE

SATURDAY, 9AM-12PM

# **AUGUST 12**

Waterman Winery & Vineyards, Inc. 11582 Waterman Rd. Waterman, IL US 60556 PART OF PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO DEKALB COUNTY'S SAFE PASSAGE

We are thrilled to announce that Safe Passage is partnering with Waterman Winery for the highly anticipated 2nd Annual Waterman Winery 5K Run!

Whether you're a seasoned runner, a leisurely walker, or a passionate wine connoisseur, this race promises an unforgettable experience and a whole lot of fun. Best of all, the proceeds from this event will directly benefit Safe Passage and our mission!

Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to lace up, raise a glass, and join us in leaving a lasting impact on our community. See you on August 12th!

**Register Now** 



Weren't able to join us for our summer DV/SA training? No worries! We offer this training three times a year and our next session will be in September!

#### We offer both direct and indirect volunteer opportunities:

Direct service volunteers work directly with clients. They are hands on with clients and assist them in times of crisis or when they need support.

Indirect service volunteers assist the agency itself. They might help with office projects like organizing supplies or putting together mailers. These volunteers help us keep things running smoothly and create a welcoming environment for all.

As for internship opportunities, we have several positions that offer firsthand experience providing direct client service in a fast-paced environment.

**Apply Now** 

## Staff Highlight



## Errica

#### Marketing & Communications Specialist

"Hi there! My name is Errica and I've been Safe Passage's Marketing & Communications Specialist for the last year and a half. Although I've only been in my position for a small amount of time, I've definitely gained a lot of knowledge on how to be a better advocate for those currently or who've in the past experienced abuse.

As a survivor of sexual violence, working at a sexual and domestic violence crisis center can sometimes have it's triggering moments, but I believe that it's been a necessary step in my healing, as well. I've have the privilege to meet incredibly strong individuals who've also unfortunately went through sexual abuse one way or another; I've also been fortunate enough to work in an agency that demands for a compassionate and empathetic staff team. Since working at Safe Passage, I've been able to understand my healing journey, what I currently need to continue healing, and how much I've grown since the abuse. I appreciate the learning experiences, both in my professional and work life, that I've gotten since working with Safe Passage.

I graduated in December 2021 with a Marketing degree. During my free time, I enjoy cooking and trying new recipes. I'm trying to get back into leisurely reading and I'm currently reading Happy Place by Emily Henry."

Thank you, Errica, for your commitment to Safe Passage!

#### **Stay Connected**









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