



Queer Stories of Resilience

Dear queer friends,

Have you got a good story about resilience?

“*Growing Together, An LGBTQ Fund*” is looking for individuals in the queer community with stories of resilience to showcase at our annual Pride Brunch fundraiser on June 8, 2025, at a venue that will be selected in March. *Growing Together* is the part of The San Luis Obispo Community foundation that supports the queer community in this county.

We invite you to pitch your inspiring story for the stage or spread the word about this exciting event to folks you know who may be interested in sharing theirs. Organizations that partner with *Growing Together* in disseminating this invitation to their constituents and reaching out on our behalf will have their efforts gratefully acknowledged with their logo in the program at the Pride Brunch event.

We are seeking personal stories of resilience and tales of struggle and success that touch on any of these elements:

- Overcoming challenges related to being LGBTQ+
- Being transgender or non-binary
- Being bi-sexual or having a fluid sexuality
- Overcoming other challenges where being LGBTQ+ gave you unique insight
- Being an ally to someone facing LGBTQ+ challenges

Five or six tellers will be featured in the brunch showcase. If your story is selected, you will receive:

- Story coaching to help you shape your experience into a 5-minute piece for the stage
- \$75 honorarium in gratitude for your time and effort

To pitch your story, briefly summarize (1 page or about 500 words) and include:

- What makes your story of resilience unique

- What unique perspective, skill or habit helped you be successful
- What were the stakes, what would have happened if you hadn't triumphed
- How did the event(s) change you, your world, how others see you, etc.
- How we can contact you (email, cell phone #)

NOTE: All submissions will be treated with complete confidentiality and will not be used for any purpose without the creator's explicit consent.

We're looking for variety in story content and approach, so short and/or funny is as valued as gritty / tough. Consider giving your pitch the elements of storytelling, e.g., strong hook and ending, tension, arc. But don't worry about form; we value all pitches. (For some tips on what makes a good story for the stage, check out: *(link to webpage w/ story tips)*)

DEADLINE for your story pitch is March 15. Please send to: alysia@cfsloco.org

We look forward to creative collaboration on this exciting event and thank you so much for your interest and support!

Sincerely,

Alysia Krupsky
Growing Together: An LGBTQ+ Fund