

## Honoring Pride Month at Foundations Recovery Network

As the Vice President of Substance Use Disorders at Foundations Recovery Network (FRN), I am proud to recognize June as Pride Month. This month holds profound significance for all of us within FRN as we reaffirm our commitment to providing specialized care tailored to the unique needs of LGBTQ+ individuals. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), LGBTQ+ individuals are almost three times more likely to experience a mental health condition, often due to the discrimination, stigma, and trauma they experience. In addition, studies show that LGBTQ+ individuals are generally more than twice as likely to use illicit drugs and almost twice as likely to suffer from a substance use disorder.

This Pride Month, we'd like to highlight one of our esteemed facilities, [Pride Institute](#), for its ongoing commitment to the LGBTQ+ community. Established in 1986 in Eden Prairie, MN during the HIV/AIDS crisis, Pride Institute was the first addiction treatment center to exclusively serve LGBTQ+ individuals and is currently one of only four programs in the nation providing substance abuse treatment specifically to this population. The Institute has received many accolades, including being named Best Addiction Treatment Center by *Newsweek* for the years 2021-2023. Pride routinely receives referrals from across the United States, with nearly 20% of its clients traveling from out of state to receive specialized care. Since July 2019, their residential program has assisted 3,428 LGBTQ+ persons struggling with addiction.

In addition to its dedicated service to the LGBTQ+ community, Pride Institute has also served as a shining example for other programs, paving the way for more treatment facilities to open their doors to LGBTQ+ tracks and to demonstrate support and allyship. Two facilities doing just that are [Michael's House](#) in Palm Springs, CA, which hosts an LGBTQ+-friendly treatment program, and [Foundations San Francisco](#), which has a long history of treating the LGBTQ+ community and demonstrating effective and ongoing allyship.

At Foundations Recovery Network, we stand in solidarity with the LGBTQ+ community, offering our unwavering support, understanding and compassion to all who walk through our doors. This Pride Month and beyond, we are committed to fostering a culture of inclusivity and acceptance, where everyone can receive the compassionate care that they deserve.

Sincerely,

Chad Koller, MBA, MHA, LPC  
Vice President, Substance Use Disorders  
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