

# CASE

2020-2021

# FOR

# SUPPORT



Q Christian Fellowship



**Help us model a world** where all LGBTQ+ people are fully loved by family, church, and community, and Christians worldwide live up to their calling to be instruments of grace and defenders of the outcasts.

JESUS CAME TO EARTH FOR THOSE CAST OUT BY RELIGIOUS AUTHORITIES AND SOCIETY. WE ARE THOSE OUTCASTS.

**3X**

LGB youth seriously **contemplate suicide** at almost three times the rate of heterosexual youth. (The Trevor Project)

LGB youth are almost five times as likely to have **attempted suicide** compared to heterosexual youth. (The Trevor Project)

**5X**

**8.4X**

LGB youth from highly rejecting families are 8.4 times as likely to have **attempted suicide** as LGB peers who reported no/low levels of family rejection. (The Trevor Project)

40% of transgender adults reported having made a **suicide attempt**. 92% of these individuals reported having **attempted suicide** before the age of 25. (The Trevor Project)

**40%**



After I came out as gay at 17, I hoped that by being out, I would find the other gay people around me and we would share something in common. I didn't meet many gay friends at the time, but I did meet Christians who insisted that being gay wasn't God's plan for my life. These new Christian friendships led to **eight years of me trying to renounce homosexuality and become heterosexual.**

**Darren Calhoun**  
Q Christian Board Member



**Q Christian Fellowship** cultivates radical belonging among LGBTQ+ people and allies through a commitment to **growth, community, and relational justice.**

# Mercedes A.

## 2020 Conference Scholarship Recipient

Ever since Conference, I have been trying to find a way to articulate my deep gratitude to those of you who provided my scholarship. The only way I can think of to do that is to explain to you the year I had leading up to the 2020 Q Christian Fellowship Conference.

I realized and accepted that I was gay in August of 2018. I began my first relationship that November. I came out publicly on social media the following January 1st, 2019. It was a birthday gift to myself, choosing to live this next year of life as my full self. I came to my very first QCF Conference on January 1st, 2020, the 1-year anniversary of my coming out and my 25th birthday.

Coming out was a whirlwind. I had previously been a missionary, so when I came out publicly, a lot of people became angry. I received countless messages of condemnation and judgment over all forms of social media and even to my home address. I still get those letters once in a while. I lost friends that I had known for years, and was even fired from a nonprofit I was working with. I

was told I wasn't welcome back into the country I had been a missionary in for years. I lost people and I lost my dream.

Yet at the same time, I found life beyond what I ever imagined. I found the freedom of being out and proud. I found community with Queer Christians and even began work in LGBTQ activism and affirming faith spaces. For the first time in my life, I didn't live every single week with suicidal thoughts. I learned what it felt like to be myself. I am finding that I have new, bigger dreams than I ever believed possible.

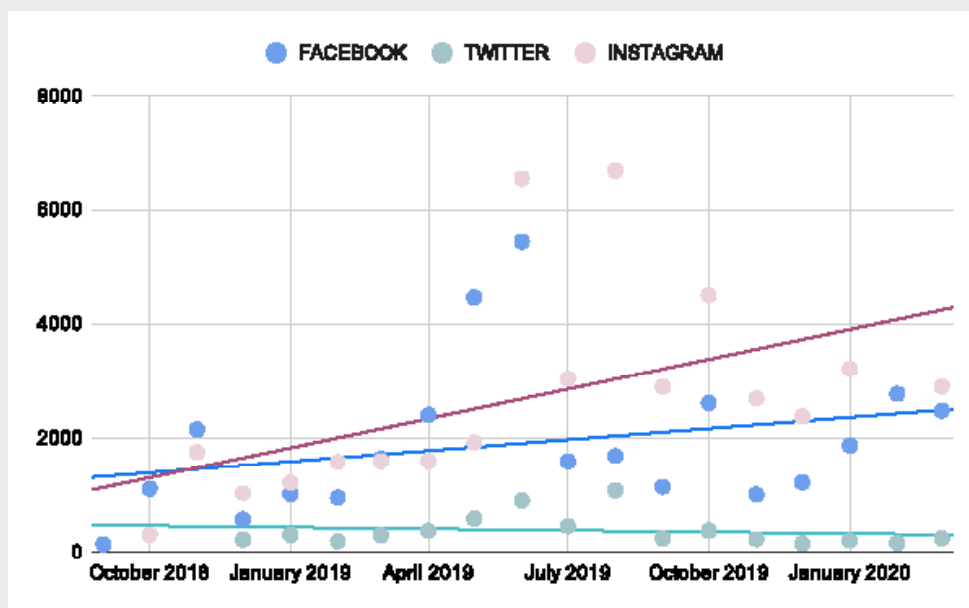
In the midst of loss I found great hope, endless love, and profound joy. Conference felt like standing on the mountaintop after a long journey, looking back at all I had gone through and all of those who helped me along the way. All of you were a part of my story and my healing when you supported the scholarship. You gave me an opportunity to heal and celebrate that I never could have experienced otherwise. You have become a part of my story, and I thank you for that.

**Q CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP GAVE ME AN OPPORTUNITY TO HEAL AND CELEBRATE THAT I NEVER COULD HAVE EXPERIENCED OTHERWISE.**



Your support is a lifeline in the digital world where we combat misinformation and manipulation with **stories of hope, theological resources, and community.**

## Online Outreach in 2019



**159,141**

ONLINE VISITORS

**345,066**

ONLINE PAGE-VIEWS

**3,191,343**

SOCIAL MEDIA IMPRESSIONS



# Checed Domingcil

UNCHANGED Contributor

I became aware of my orientation around the beginning of 2018. It started as that ‘butterflies in the stomach’ feeling around a guy I never really viewed that way. It got to the point where I couldn’t ignore it anymore. I acknowledged that it definitely was a crush.

Growing up, we were taught that marriage was between a man and a woman, and only a man and a woman. I viewed being LGBTQ+ as disgusting. So, when I started having same-sex attraction, I felt so hypocritical. I wanted to get rid of my same-sex attractions.

I initially did self-induced conversion therapy (although on a minor scale if you compare it to others). I remember spending long nights begging God to take away my same-sex attractions and breaking down because I got no answer. I remember cutting off some of my friends because I hoped it would help me “change.”

And I thought it went away. Twice. The days were February 13, 2019, and June 14, 2019. Both of them involved someone in the congregation laying their hands on me. I really fooled myself into thinking my same-sex attractions were gone. I continued telling that lie that I was “changed” for six months after that happened. I was depressed that whole time, feeling hopeless and breaking down in despair because my same-sex attraction didn’t go away. But, I still remained a faithful Christian that whole time, always looking towards God for strength. But my joy was running on empty, and I couldn’t maintain the facade much longer.

I couldn’t tell this to my youth group, either. “Everyone will just be disgusted by you,” I thought. Honestly, I was scared that someone would try worse

forms of conversion therapy on me.

But then, I discovered the UNCHANGED Movement and The Reformation Project. Hearing the accounts of other Christians who have come to terms with their identity gave me great encouragement to accept myself. I was exposed to affirming theology and was convinced rather quickly.

Now that I’m openly #unchangedlgbtq, I feel at peace with myself and my identity. I no longer feel such pressure to change. I no longer spend long nights breaking down begging God to take away my same-sex attraction. I’m no longer in such utter despair, wanting to end it all. I am now at peace.

NOW THAT I’M #UNCHANGEDLGBTQ,  
I FEEL AT PEACE WITH MYSELF AND  
MY IDENTITY.



# YOUR IMPACT IN 2019



**1,200 ATTENDEES FOR  
OUR 2019 CONFERENCE  
IN CHICAGO**



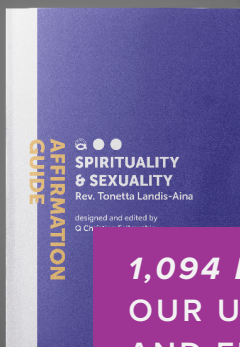
**110 PARTICIPANTS  
IN 10 ONLINE SMALL  
GROUPS NATIONWIDE**



**\$3,825 IN  
SCHOLARSHIP  
DONATIONS FOR 42  
PEOPLE TO ATTEND  
OUR 2020 CONFERENCE  
IN FORT LAUDERDALE**



**36 ATTENDEES FOR  
OUR 2019 PARENT  
SUMMIT IN ATLANTA**



**1,094 DOWNLOADS OF  
OUR UNCHANGED BOOK  
AND FIRST 4 AFFIRMATION  
& RELATIONAL GUIDES**



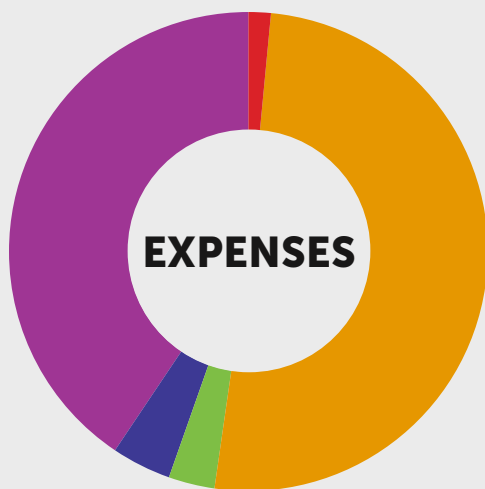
# The Money Behind the Mission:

Our operating budget for the  
2020-2021 fiscal year.

MAY 1ST, 2020 - APRIL 30TH, 2021



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION	\$208,078
RECURRING/PLEDGED GIFTS	\$134,878
GRANTS	\$41,000
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>\$383,956</b>



ONLINE OUTREACH	\$5,345
CONFERENCE	\$180,399
FUNDRAISING	\$11,087
ADMINISTRATIVE	\$14,280
EMPLOYMENT	\$144,263
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$355,374</b>

**NET INCOME**     **\$28,582**

# The Team Behind the Mission:

## Who we are and what we do.

### **Bukola Landis-Aina**

#### Executive Director | Part-Time

- Report to the Board of Directors
- Lead organizational Advisory Boards
- Lead execution of the mission
- Direct and manage Staff
  - Direct and project management of missional offerings/content creation
  - Oversee Conference focus and operations
  - Content and speaker selection
    - Guide Keynote Speakers
    - Venue selection and contracts
    - Schedule of program
    - Mainstage programming
    - Manage A/V Production Director
    - Breakout Session selection

### **Lauren Moser**

#### Operations Director | Full-Time

- Budget management and cash flow projections
- Manage 3rd party bookkeeping firm
- Payroll and PEO
- Volunteer & intern management
- Grants and foundations
- Creation of written theological/pastoral offerings
- Ongoing ministry offerings
  - UNCHANGED creator and ongoing content creation
  - Small Groups
  - Devotionals/meditation/wellness practices
  - Community/Job Board
  - Regional events coordination
- Conference logistics and operations
  - On-site communications
  - Exhibitors/Sponsorships
  - Scholarships
  - Breakout Sessions management
  - Volunteer management
  - Conference budget creation and management

### **Nathaniel Green**

#### Communications Manager | Full-Time

- Communications and visual design of content/resources
- Brand management
- Photography
- Researching potential speakers and content delivery methods

- Drafting written pastoral content
- Website management
- Administrator for Online Community/Forum
- Social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter)
- Bi-weekly email Newsletter
- UNCHANGED website/book designer and ongoing content creation
- Co-manage fundraising appeals
- Conference logistics
  - Year-round promotion
  - Online registration and website
  - Booklets/lanyards
  - Digital graphics and signage
  - Merchandise purchase, sales, and shipping

### **Christopher Dowling**

#### Development Manager | Part-Time

- Donor stewardship and solicitation (digital, phone, and in-person)
- Annual and end-of-year appeal management
- Database management
- Donor events
- Donor experience at Conference

### **Alysha Laperche**

#### Administrative Assistant | Part-Time

- Executive/Board calendars and email
- Route phone and email inquiries
- Monitor Online Community/Forum
- Document organization and retention
- Travel booking
- Data entry
- Conference logistics
  - Administrative support of operations
  - Payment plan management and communications
  - Scholarship management and communications
  - Conference supplies and shipping



**Bukola Landis-Aina** (she/her) is our part-time Executive Director, working full-time as an attorney in Washington, D.C., as well as being wife to Tonetta and mother to their son, Temitayo.

**Lauren Moser** (she/her) is our full-time Operations Director managing programs, finances, and every little detail while living and working in Denver.



**Nathaniel Green** (he/him) is our full-time Communications Manager, navigating our branding, graphic design, and communications from his home in Nashville.



**Christopher Dowling** (he/him) is our part-time Development Manager; he also works full-time for a non-profit while splitting time between Austin and Houston.



**Alysha Laperche** (they/them) is our part-time Administrative Assistant as well as a seminary student and sunset-lover living in Fort Worth with their partner.



## **Past Support**

in all of 2019, 520 supporters  
and 2 foundations contributed

**\$229,738**

## **Ongoing Support**

164 supporters are contributing

**\$10,145**

monthly in recurring gifts with an  
average gift of \$61.86 per month





As a parent of an LGBTQ+ child, the Q Christian Conference met my grief and search for answers with a sacredness and joy that changed my life and **turned me into a mother for all LGBTQ+ kids.**

I am grateful that my donation allows other parents to receive the incredible gift that I was given.

## Megan

Community Member since 2016

In 2017, I attended my first Q Christian Fellowship Conference where, **for the first time in memory,** I felt surrounded by people who instinctively understood my story, laughed at my jokes, got my references, and did my makeup for the first time. For the first time, I felt completely honest. For the first time, **I felt like I truly belonged.** I contribute because I went to that first Conference on a scholarship, and now I have a chance to give to others what I first received.

## Ralph

Community Member since 2017





It's time to **take action.**

**Give online.**

Visit [qchristian.org/take-action](http://qchristian.org/take-action) to become a sustaining partner.

**Give by mail.**

You can mail your check or donation to PO Box 21267, Denver, CO 80221.

**Give stock, a legacy gift, or an employee-matched gift.** Contact Christopher Dowling for details.

**Give a Conference Scholarship.**

You can donate to the Scholarship Fund by visiting [qcfconf.org/register](http://qcfconf.org/register).



## **Donor Affinity Groups**

- PTA (Parents Taking Action) for parents of LGBTQ+ children supporting Q Christian

## **Volunteer Support Opportunities**

Share your UNCHANGED story.

Become a Small Group Leader.

Host a donor gathering.

Share content on social media.

Get involved with the Board.

Serve at Conference.

# A special thank you to our **Board of Directors.**



**DARREN  
CALHOUN**



**DANNY  
CORTEZ**



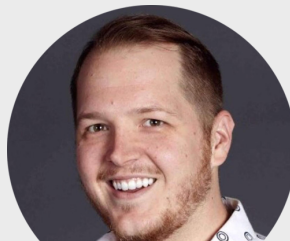
**WENDY  
VANDERWALL-GRITTER**



**OTTO  
ELKINS**



**BEN  
MANN**



**MATT  
STOLHANDSKE**



**DAVID  
CLARK**



**CARRIE  
NEAL**



**NATE  
OSBURN**