



**Milwaukee LGBT Community Center**

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**STATEMENT OF THE MILWAUKEE LGBT COMMUNITY CENTER on  
PRESIDENT OBAMA'S ANNOUNCEMENT of SUPPORT for MARRIAGE EQUALITY**

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President Barack Obama's announcement this afternoon of his support for marriage equality for all committed adult couples, regardless of gender, represents a historic moment in our nation's long journey toward our shared vision of equal treatment of all people. Like the majority of Americans, President Obama's evolving stance on gay marriage is the result of a careful and thoughtful recognition that committed, loving relationships among LGBT couples deserve equal legal status.

A key part of the Milwaukee's LGBT Community Center's mission is the improvement of the lives of LGBT people through advocacy of a safer, more inclusive environment. Legal recognition of our relationships contributes to the well-being of LGBT families by improving financial stability and equalizing access to health care and other employee benefits, including legal protections during difficult times, such as death of a spouse. Recognition also helps alleviate some of the feelings of isolation and discrimination caused by unequal treatment of families.

The Center serves people of all ages, including youth ages 12-24 in our Project Q program. We believe that the President's message today is especially hopeful for those LGBTQ young people. He has made a bold statement that each of them has a right to have their loving, committed relationship legally recognized and we look forward to seeing that statement translated into law.

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