



Board of Directors Recap (February–June 2026)

Based on the February, March, April Virtual Board Actions, May, June Board Minutes, and the attached NOH8/Pride Picnic addendums, the Board focused on five major priorities during the first half of 2026: organizational stabilization, governance and committee restructuring, financial management, program expansion, fundraising, and community engagement.

1. Governance & Organizational Development

- Completed transition of organizational records and responsibilities to the newly elected Board.
- Appointed:
 - Ka‘imi Maka as Treasurer
 - Lisa Kent as Communications Director
 - Lillie Wacaster as Program Committee Chair
 - Seraphina as Development Committee Chair.
- Established four standing committees:
 - Development
 - Programs
 - Governance
 - Nominations.
- Adopted the Network’s Five-Year Strategic Plan and continued work on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

2. Financial Management & Infrastructure

- Approved amendments to operating account thresholds, signatories, and capital campaign fund management.
- Continued growth of the Capital Campaign Fund, increasing from approximately \$4,120 to nearly \$6,500 by June.
- Approved organizational insurance coverage including General Liability, Directors & Officers (D&O), and Professional Liability coverage.
- Renewed membership with CenterLink and maintained investments in organizational infrastructure.

3. Fundraising & Community Partnerships

Major fundraising and partnership initiatives included:

- Mardi Gras in the Spa
 - Generated approximately \$646 in sale proceeds and benefited from private sponsorship support.
- Spring Fling
 - Raised approximately \$1,073 through the silent auction.
- Approved nonprofit consignment partnership with Static.
- Expanded Community Care Cabinet donation partnerships through:
 - Unitarian Universalist Church.
- Added multiple sponsors and community partners including:
 - Gilead
 - Diversity Health
 - Flowers & Home
 - Red Light Roastery
 - Dunkin/Baskin Robbins.
 - Neon Springs
 - Rose Eye Clinic
 - Hot Springs Pride Pageant
 - Magic Springs
 - Static
 - House Cup Coffee
- Launched the Network Online Store.

4. Programs & Community Services

The Board expanded several community-facing initiatives:

- Community Care Cabinet
 - Added additional donation drop-off locations.
 - Began collecting impact metrics.
- Giving Team
 - Resuming outreach and resource distribution.
- Community Meditation Garden
 - Approved Network sponsorship of 2 beds for weeding.
- Chosen Family Dinner program established as the successor to the Safe Space Dinner.
- Rainbow Wellness & Fitness Initiative approved as an official Network program pending grant funding. This initiative includes:
 - Gym membership scholarships
 - Line dancing classes
 - Community health partnerships.

5. Events & Community Engagement

The Board approved, organized, or supported:

- Mardi Gras in the Spa
- Spring Fling
- Pride Picnic
- NOH8 Campaign participation
- Pride Walk & Festival participation
- Pride Pageant sponsor
- Miss Gay Hot Springs sponsor
- Bathhouse Tour
- Gay Rodeo outing
- Future planning for:
 - Halloween Event
 - Winter Pride Ball
 - 2027 event calendar development.

6. NOH8 Campaign Outcome

- Seven Network representatives participated in the statewide NOH8 Campaign event in Little Rock.

- Established direct relationships with NOH8 founders and leadership.
- Began exploring the possibility of hosting a future NOH8 event in Hot Springs.
- Increased statewide visibility for the organization and strengthened advocacy connections.

7. Pride Picnic Outcome

The 2026 Pride Picnic was one of the Network’s most successful events:

- Strong attendance and community participation.
- Positive feedback from attendees, sponsors, vendors, and volunteers.
- Successful entertainment, food service, and vendor engagement.
- Identified improvements for:
 - Event layout planning
 - Vendor management
 - Merchandise planning
 - Food service logistics
 - Expanded use of Zeffy for event administration.
 - Schedule of events
 - Bracelet distribution to attendees for advertisement and way of tracking attendance
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Executive Summary

During the first six months of 2026, the Board successfully transitioned into a new governance structure, strengthened financial oversight, launched new committees, expanded community programming, secured insurance coverage, increased fundraising capacity, developed new partnerships, grew organizational visibility, and delivered several highly successful community events. The organization entered the second half of 2026 with stronger operational systems, growing community engagement, expanded partnerships, and a clear focus on sustainability, wellness programming, fundraising, and long-term organizational growth