



ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2024 – AUGUST 2025

Muncie Queer Alliance (MQA) is honored to present our inaugural annual report. Contained in the following pages are our finance reports, event highlights, accomplishments and lessons learned, goals for the upcoming year, and a list of our current and past board members who have all put extraordinary efforts into the building of our organization.

*Questions or comments about this annual report can be directed to:
hello@munciequeeralliance.org*

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Executive Summary

MISSION, VISION, AND VALUES OF MUNCIE QUEER ALLIANCE

Our Mission:

To unite, empower, and inspire the LGBTQ+ community of East Central Indiana (ECI) through advocacy, support, education, and belonging.

Our Vision:

Our vision is to establish a vibrant hub for the ECI LGBTQ+ community, uniting and empowering individuals through advocacy, support, and education. Our goal is to create space to offer vital services, support groups, and a welcoming environment where everyone can thrive, celebrate their identity, and find a sense of belonging. By partnering with community groups and hosting diverse events and workshops, we aim to provide comprehensive resources, amplify voices, and foster a strong, inclusive community.

Our Values:

1. Inclusion: Embracing all identities and intersectionalities within the LGBTQ+ community
2. Empowerment: Providing opportunity for personal growth
3. Advocacy: Actively working toward beneficial legislation, policies, and practices
4. Community: Building a network of strong, supportive connections
5. Education: Offering programs, resources, and perspectives for understanding and acceptance
6. Safety: Encouraging principles of harm reduction, mutual aid, and personal readiness that encompass physical, social, and emotional wellbeing
7. Diversity: Honoring and valuing each person's unique journey
8. Respect: Treating ourselves and others as individuals worthy of dignity
9. Collaboration: Partnering with organizations for common goals and greater good
10. Innovation: Continually working toward creative solutions to meet the ever-changing needs of the community
11. Justice: Dismantling systems of oppression and working toward equity, healing, and liberation for all LGBTQ+ people, especially those most impacted by racism, ableism, transphobia, and poverty
12. Equity: Removing barriers and creating impartial access to resources and opportunities
13. Belonging: Ensuring a safe, welcoming environment

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The first operating year for MQA was positive and modest. Our organization showed excellent restraint in using resources and has been mindful to put much of the dollars donated directly into events and resources rather than starting with too many financial obligations associated with overhead. We have also benefited from many community partners in raising funds and board members have been generous with monetary and in-kind donations to get MQA off to a healthy financial start.

At the start of September 2024, MQA had \$1,109.23 from donations received in the year prior to our official launch.

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We ended the year having received \$4,528.19, with community partners leading the way; Tamara Knight of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence hosted a fundraiser event for us that brought in over \$900 and the Cornfed Roller Derby Team raised \$500 for MQA during their twelfth season.

Thank you so very much!

MQA held and partnered with other organizations to host several events in the first year which will be highlighted in more detail to follow. The expenses for these events—often food costs—were more than half of the total expenditures for the year. The remaining expenses included our filing fees, equipment purchases, and website and domain costs. In total, MQA spent \$1,254.77 during our first year and carry a balance of \$3,584.42 moving into our second year.

OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS

MQA operated with a financially prudent framework and made efforts to keep operational costs low. As an all-volunteer working board, we have no paid staff. We rent space to hold monthly, in-person board meetings at MadJax but the rental fees have been met by a board member willing to absorb the cost for an initial period of time. Other actualized operational costs include our filing fees, equipment purchases, and website and domain costs, totaling \$596.37.

Throughout the year, MQA either hosted or partnered as hosts for 15 events. We have developed strong partnerships with organizations such as the Muncie Liberation Studio, Ball State University (BSU) Spectrum, the Common Market, and Muncie Resists. Additionally, MQA was visible to the community by tabling at various events in East Central Indiana such as Richmond Pride, Anderson Pride, Muncie Juneteenth, Cornfed Roller Derby Season 12 home bouts, The Whole She-Bang, and Abraqueerdabra—A Queer Arts Festival.



By collaborating with like-minded community organizations and through frequent visibility, we were able to start getting our organization in front of people and work to provide resources that queer folks and those who work with queer

folks benefit from receiving.

LOOKING AHEAD

Our first year included a lot of learning, struggling, adapting, and growing. As we ended the year, we spent a lot of time and energy working on the foundational needs of MQA such as revisiting our bylaws; revising our mission, vision, and values statements through intentional readings and wordsmithing; updating our member contracts, policies, and procedures; and more. Now, we turn our attention to the coming year and we have many goals in mind yet we also wish to gather as much input as possible from the community we serve.

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We intend to continue hosting events that were well-received. We intend to continue partnering with our neighboring organizations. We intend to continue curating and offering much-needed resources. And, we intend to grow as an organization by expanding our board and committees, welcoming volunteers and future partnering organizations, and invite opportunities to unite, empower, inspire, support and stand up for our community.

WHO IS MQA AND WHERE CAN MQA BE FOUND?

The current board members of MQA are:

SteVen Knipp – President

Dave Franklin – Vice President

Kathy Feeney – Secretary

Morgan Roddy – Treasurer

Daisy Dale – At-Large

Amy Leffingwell – At-Large

Jason White – At-Large

Previous board members include:

Cee Davis

Shorty Ford

Audrey Hicks

Heather Hines

Sam McCollum

We wish to extend our deep appreciation for having served on our board, especially through the challenges that come with starting a brand new organization in the midst of a tumultuous socio-political climate. Your service advanced our organization and we remain grateful to your contributions.

Thanks to each and every one of you!

MQA can be found in a number of ways: we have a website, email address, and Facebook & Instagram accounts. Our website is www.munciequeeralliance.org and our email address is hello@munciequeeralliance.org.

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AND A NOTE FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

One Year In

It's wild to think that Muncie Queer Alliance has been established as a nonprofit in the Muncie community for a year already. We had a great first year under the leadership of our inaugural president Sam McCollum! Sam has a big heart and is involved in a lot of positive things that make Muncie a better place! In honor and appreciation of his service we held a drive at our annual meeting, collecting items for his community box.

While this past year has not been easy for the queer community, MQA was successful in providing a lot of meaningful opportunities for Muncie's queer community to come together for support, education, resources, and even some fun! This was obviously something the community both wanted and needed and that was evident by the large attendance at all the events we held.

There are a few key factors that contributed to the success of our first year! The first was the hardwork and creativity of our events committee under the leadership of board secretary Kathy Feeny that came up with interesting appealing events for our community to engage in. The largest factor of our success was due to the strength of the partnerships we made this year!

Looking forward into this next year we hope to expand on the things that brought success this year. We took time this fall to hold a 4 day board retreat in order to establish some groundwork and structure to MQA organization. This effort will strengthen the organization and support growth and sustainability of the organization so that the MQA can continue to support Muncie's queer community for many years in the future. We have also created a survey to get all of your perspectives on how MQA can best support Muncie's queer community in the immediate future through some of the hardships our community faces in the current political climate.

Not only do we hope to establish more community partners but we also want to continue to strengthen the partnerships we formed this year! We are also hoping to find creative fun ways to fundraise and to add fundraising elements to our existing events in the hopes that we can continue to provide the community with meaningful quality free events! We are also considering expanding our board to bring in more voices, perspectives, and to spread out the organizational board work as well as fill our committees. If you or someone you know have the passion and interest to be more involved please reach out!

Finally we'd like to thank the community, our partners, board members and volunteers for a fantastic year! We are eager to continue to serve the queer community and hope to see you at one of our many upcoming events!

-SteVen Knipp

Board President 2025-2026

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Financial Summary

2024 – 2025 FINANCIAL & BUDGET OVERVIEW

The following 2024-2025 Financial & Budget Overview was prepared by MQA Treasurer, Morgan Roddy.

MQA 2025 Financial & Budget Overview a/o 8/31/2025		
Income		
	Donations	\$4,528.19
	Grants	
	TOTAL INCOME	\$4,528.19
Expenses		
	Bank Fees	
	Business Filing Fees	\$275.00
	Supplies	
	Events	\$658.40
	Event Space Rental	
	Non Event Food	\$55.42
	Website/Domain	\$23.17
	Equipment	\$187.24
	Accidental charge	\$55.54
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,254.77
	NET INCOME	\$3,273.42

For our first year, we made estimates for annual expenses and income, including any grant funding. Our organization applied for a Teagan and Sara Foundation grant in the Spring of 2025 but was not named as a recipient. However, through the kindness and support of individual donors and community partners, we exceeded our expectations for donated funds.

FUNDRAISING PARTNERS

We would like to thank Tamara Knight of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence for choosing MQA as the organization benefiting from her Dungeons and Drag Queens fundraiser. During this fundraising event, Glinda B. Fierce organized drag performances, which led to the generosity of the performers donating their cash tips to MQA as well. In sum, MQA received over \$900 from this event as our single largest fundraising

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community event. We received positive feedback for this event from the participants and hope to be able to build off of this event in the coming years.

Cornfed Roller Derby was another generous partner by choosing MQA as its nonprofit for Season 12

fundraising, donating \$500 directly along with tip jar donations that were collected during bouts. Thank you to our local derby team for bringing such positive energy to Muncie and making MQA feel welcome and seen.



Additionally, we would like to thank BSU Spectrum for choosing MQA as the beneficiary of their annual drag show fundraiser event. Aura Aurora served as emcee for the event and performed alongside several local and regional drag artists, raising over \$600. BSU

Spectrum—founded

in 1974—is Ball State’s oldest LGBTQ+ organization and has as its mission to educate the Ball State and Muncie communities on LGBTQ+ issues, cultures, and history. MQA appreciates every opportunity to collaborate with BSU Spectrum and values their partnership as we work to build strong bonds between the local and college communities.

In addition, the expenses for hosting events were often shared expenses and, therefore, were much lower than what we initially budgeted. For example, we were able to collaborate on two holiday meals in November and December of 2024 and split costs with our co-hosts, Ryder Martz, Tracy Letzler, Christiana Mann, and the Common Market. We have also found community spaces that allowed for gatherings rent-free, such as our City’s parks and public libraries. Furthermore, our friends at Muncie Liberation Studio have been gracious in allowing us to use their space at the for collaborative events such as Trans Day of Visibility (TDOV) and the Queer Film Series.



FINANCIAL GOALS

As we look to short-term and long-term financial goals for MQA, we aim to maintain our financial discipline by keeping our overhead and operating costs as minimal as possible while increasing our donor base, holding a fundraising campaign, and successfully earning grant funding for programming. Our goals are to provide events, services, support, and workshops to the community and have our finances used meaningfully toward these goals.

In the near-term and on the expense side, we anticipate incurring costs for storage of equipment, donated clothing and supplies, and event tabling materials. We hope to share these costs with another organization

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who has a similar need. Furthermore, we anticipate additional equipment purchases to expand the types of events we can host and leverage as a way to assist other organizations who may not have the resources for these investments.

For the near-term for income, the finance committee will look to support the events committee for planning a fundraising campaign and launching an annual fundraiser event in the 2025-2026 year.

Longer-term goals will be honed in by community feedback and buy-in, however, an example of a future possibility we aim for is to be an organization that could offer microgrants to folks in our community who may have housing, transportation, food, or health-related needs.

As a final note, much of the groundwork of the financial reporting for the year was performed by Heather Hines, our board's first treasurer. We wish her luck on her endeavors with graduate school and thank her profusely for setting us up for success in reporting.

EVENTS SUMMARY

Events Summary

Muncie Queer Alliance made great effort to be visible, collaborative, and impactful in its first year by tabling at community activities; hosting workshops, resource events, networking opportunities, and meals; and partnering with organizations to watch and discuss films. Our endeavors centered the community as our primary means of meeting our mission is through consistent, meaningful events. Below, we highlight some of our standout events as well as provide an overview of our year of activities.

Community Brunch and Drag Show co-hosted with Ryder Martz at the Common Market



In February of 2025, MQA organized a community brunch served at the Common Market. Glinda B. Fierce emceed and performed alongside other artists to put on a drag show during the brunch event. We had a great turnout from the community and this event the first event we held in which drag performers volunteered their time and donated their tips as a way to support our organization. Drag performances have been more difficult to organize with the relocation of the Mark III Taproom, but in showing the continued and unwavering support for our local artists, Ryder Martz—co-owner of the Mark III Taproom—joined up with MQA to provide food for a brunch and daytime drag show. Positive feedback indicated this event is one that attendees would like to see occur again and with some regularity.

TDOV Zine Launch and Film Screening at the Muncie Liberation Studio

In the spring of 2025, MQA made a call-out to local artists to submit work to an inaugural zine with the topic of Trans Day of Visibility as the central theme. We received art from several local artists and published issues of the zine to distribute at the Muncie Liberation Studio during a screening of the film *Will & Harper*. After the film, we engaged in discussion about points the film raised and also had opportunities to engage with some of the contributing artists of the zine. For nearly every attendee, this was their first time viewing *Will & Harper* and it led to a robust conversation around the room about what transitioning later in life must mean, how friendships are maintained after transition, and what allyship can look like.

Queer Film Series with Muncie Liberation Studio and Muncie Post Democrat

On each Friday during Pride Month 2025, MQA alongside Muncie Liberation Studio and Muncie Post-Democrat hosted a Queer Film Series where a film was screened and a Q&A session was held afterward. Fresh popcorn, snacks, and coffee were provided at each screening by MQA and study sheets were compiled by Daisy Dale of Muncie Post-Democrat and Joseph Souza of Muncie Liberation Studio. Films in the series included *Milk*, *Pay It No Mind: The Life and Times of Marsha P. Johnson*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, and *I Saw The TV Glow*. The series was well-attended and had good participation from those who were in attendance.

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Dungeons and Drag Queens with Sister Tamara Knight and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence at MadJax

Closing out the year for MQA in big fashion was the Dungeons and Drag Queens fundraiser put on by Sister Tamara Knight of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. BSU Spectrum volunteered to provide and serve food at the event so that participants could more easily stay engaged in their tabletop games. Each table had a



game master dressed in drag and the event accommodated all experience levels of players from brand new all the way to seasoned adventurers. Drag performers also entertained during breaks to bring more energy and fun to an already excited audience. The event sold 28 tickets and over \$900 total funds were raised—including donated tips from drag artists and cheat codes used by players. People who attended as well as those who couldn't make it indicated strong interest in the event again and MQA looks to grow Dungeons and Drag Queens to be a significant annual activity.

Finally, our year of events in review is below:

Sep 2024

Muncie Pride (MQA tabled)

Labor Day Cookout and Clothing Swap at McCulloch Park

Over 50 people attended and were fed and given options of free clothing items to take with them.



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Nov 2024

TDOR—Trans Day of Remembrance vigil at City Hall with a march to MadJax with a community gathering.

Over 30 people braved the cold weather to hear the names of transgender individuals who passed away over the course of the year and to march in remembrance to gather at MadJax and be in community together.

Holiday Meal #1: Found Family Feast at the Common Market and co-hosted by Ryder Martz, Tracy Letzler, and Christiana Mann

Over 40 people gathered and were fed.

Dec 2024

Legal Documents Session—Name & Gender Marker changes and Health Care Power of Attorney, assisted by Indiana Legal Services, Felicia Carter of Whitewater River Valley Pro Bono Commission for providing paralegal services, Shauna Winters for providing notary services.



Over 25 individuals were assisted in this session, including individuals traveling from Indianapolis.

Holiday Meal #2: Co-hosted by Ryder Martz, Tracy Letzler, and Christiana Mann at the Common Market

Over 40 people gathered together and were served meals.

Queers Who Lunch—A biweekly drop-in lunch hour held at the Common Market where people could come socialize and meet one another in a casual setting.

QWL events ranged between 4 and 16 individuals attending throughout the year

Jan 2025

Inauguration event cohosted with Civic Impact Network and Muncie Resists to provide a supportive social gathering

Feb 2025

Community Brunch and Drag Show at the Common Market

EVENTS SUMMARY

Mar 2025

TDOV—Trans Day of Visibility zine launch event and screening of Will & Harper cohosted with Muncie Liberation Studio

Approximately six artists contributed to the first-ever zine and approximately 20 people attended the launch and film screening.

Apr 2025

BSU Spectrum Annual Drag Show Fundraiser

The Whole She-Bang (MQA tabled)

May 2025

Cornfed Roller Derby Cornament (MQA tabled)

Jun 2025

Queer Film Series with Muncie Liberation Studio and Muncie Post-Democrat, every Friday during Pride Month

The film series ranged from 10-30 people in attendance with many individuals viewing the films screened for their first time which led to engaging discussions.

Muncie Juneteenth (MQA tabled)

Abraqueerdabra Magic City Queer Arts Festival (MQA tabled)

Richmond Pride (MQA tabled)

MQA Annual Stonewall Cookout and Clothing Swap at Westside Park

Over 40 people attended, were served meals, and selected clothing items to keep.

Jul 2025

Anderson Pride (MQA tabled)

Aug 2025

Dungeons and Drag Queens, co-hosted by Sister Tamara Knight and The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence along with BSU Spectrum volunteers.

Over \$900 was raised and 28 tickets were sold for those who participated as adventurers in the 6 different campaigns offered at separate tables.