

PRESS RELEASE



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The Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center

Executive Director Patrick Soricone to Leave the DeFrank Center After Three Outstanding Years of Accomplishments

Legacy of transformational accomplishments will mark his tenure

(San Jose, November 2, 2005). The Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center announces that Patrick Soricone, the DeFrank Center's executive director, will be leaving the staff at the end of November. Mr. Soricone recently accepted a position as the Director for Community Impact at the United Way Silicon Valley, and will begin in mid-December.

During his three years as the executive director, the DeFrank Center completed the renovation and moved into a permanent facility, revamped programming to be more inclusive of all segments of the community, increased membership by over 50%, and expanded services for LGBTQ teens, adults, seniors, and families and their allies.

"When I first came to the DeFrank Center three years ago, I was excited about the opportunity to be a part of what the DeFrank Center was and help it reach its full potential in the future," said Mr. Soricone. "I'm exceptionally proud of all of the hard work and accomplishments our staff and board produced during my tenure and I know that they will continue to serve as remarkable leaders for the Silicon Valley LGBT community in the days to follow. The decision to leave this incredible place was an extremely difficult one, and I know I will miss the DeFrank Center and the community members tremendously. But just like when I walked into the position, I'm equally excited about what the DeFrank Center is and the path it is on for the upcoming years."

Prior to Mr. Soricone's departure, the Board of Directors will meet to discuss the selection of an interim executive director and the search process for a new executive director. An announcement regarding the appointment of an interim executive director is expected in mid-November.

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About The Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center:

Founded in 1981, the Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center addresses the needs and rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender people of all ages and backgrounds in Silicon Valley. The DeFrank Center provides a broad range of wellness, social and recreational activities, and emotional support services to approximately 400 visitors each week. The DeFrank Center is a 501(c)3, federally registered, tax-exempt organization, and receives over 21,000 contacts and requests for service a year (either in-person, via phone or on-line).

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