



ARAPAHOE COUNTY

# Proclamation

## A PROCLAMATION ESTABLISHING JUNE 2026 AS LGBTQIA+ PRIDE MONTH

**WHEREAS**, the story of America is still being written — not in the halls of government, but in the lives of those who dare to live truthfully, to love openly, and to insist, against every pressure to disappear, that they belong; and

**WHEREAS**, every June, Arapahoe County joins communities across the nation in celebrating Pride Month, honoring the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, and Asexual (LGBTQIA+) community — a community not defined by its struggles but by its extraordinary resilience, creativity, and joy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Stonewall Uprising of June 1969 — sparked by those who had the least power and the most courage — ignited a civil rights movement that continues to expand the meaning of freedom for all Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, Arapahoe County is home to a vibrant LGBTQIA+ community whose members span every profession, faith tradition, race, ethnicity, and lived experience, and whose contributions enrich the cultural, economic, and civic life of our region every single day; and

**WHEREAS**, in a moment when LGBTQIA+ rights face renewed challenge across our country, the work of building an inclusive community is not ceremonial — it is essential, ongoing, and requires the active commitment of every level of government and every neighbor; and

**WHEREAS**, we are mindful of the generations who could not speak their names freely, who built lives in the margins of a society that denied their existence, and whose quiet perseverance made possible the more open world that follows; and

**WHEREAS**, we stand in solidarity with LGBTQIA+ youth — who deserve to grow up knowing that **who they are** is not a burden to be managed, but a gift to be celebrated; and that in Arapahoe County, they are seen, valued, and protected; and

**WHEREAS**, we acknowledge transgender and nonbinary community members who navigate a world that too often demands conformity in exchange for safety, and we affirm that gender in all its diversity is not a threat — it is a reflection of the full and irreducible complexity of humanity; and

**WHEREAS**, the pursuit of dignity and equality for all LGBTQIA+ people is inseparable from the broader pursuit of justice that has always defined this nation at its best — and is carried forward today by advocates, educators, families, and friends who refuse to let fear have the final word; and

**WHEREAS**, Pride is not only a parade or a proclamation. It is the quiet act of living one's truth. It is a family choosing love over expectation. It is a community gathering not just to celebrate how far we have come, but to recommit to how far we still must go.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners does hereby proclaim June 2026 as **LGBTQIA+ PRIDE MONTH** in Arapahoe County — not as a formality, but as a promise: that this county will continue to work toward a community where every resident can live without fear, love without apology, and belong without condition and may this proclamation stand as our affirmation that Pride — in all its color, courage, and complexity — belongs here.

Commissioner Carrie Warren-Gully

Commissioner Jessica Campbell

Commissioner Leslie Summey  
Chair of the Board

Commissioner Jeff Baker  
Chair Pro Tem

Commissioner Rhonda Fields