

ACTS OF  
LOVE &  
KINDNESS



ACT. LOVE. GIVE.

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### “ACTS OF LOVE AND KINDNESS”

#### TO CONTINUE HEALING THE ORLANDO COMMUNITY AFTER PULSE

**May 12, 2017 (ORLANDO, FL)** — To continue the spirit of giving and good deeds witnessed in the aftermath of the tragedy at Pulse nightclub, “*Acts of Love and Kindness*” is a homegrown movement that inspires the Orlando community and beyond to engage in volunteerism, share their stories and show love by supporting those still in need.

The movement complements “*Orlando United Day — A Day of Love and Kindness*” on June 12, 2017, which is being dedicated by the City of Orlando, Orange County and Pulse Nightclub to honor the victims and survivors of the attack. The **One Orlando Alliance** — a coalition of more than 30 Orlando LGBTQ+ organizations — worked with representatives from the city, county and Pulse to help realize this movement.

“The Pulse tragedy was the darkest day in Orlando’s history, yet hate did not win or divide. In fact, it sparked a movement of love, kindness, and generosity here at home and around the world,” said Jennifer Foster of the Alliance. “Though we can never get back the innocent lives that were forever taken from us, our community remains stronger and more united than ever before. There’s much more that we all can do to honor everyone affected and continue to create a better community.”

Nonprofits and volunteers are asked to visit [www.ActLoveGive.com](http://www.ActLoveGive.com) where they can sign up for a variety of community service projects and learn about ways to ACT, LOVE, and GIVE. Social media will also play a major role as individuals share their own stories of how June 12 touched their lives via the hashtag **#ActLoveGive**.

“My hope is that people continue to respond as they did immediately after the tragedy. Whether they choose to donate blood, hand out water, or hold a stranger, their action will perpetuate LOVE. They are small and easy gestures that make a big difference,” said Barbara Poma, Pulse Nightclub owner and Executive Director of the onePULSE Foundation.

For individuals and organizations seeking ways to help, the families of the 49 created a beautiful list of **49 Acts** to honor their loved ones. Available on the Alliance’s website and their social media channels, suggestions range from helping to obtain school supplies for children in need to simply introducing yourself to a neighbor you don’t know.

Churches around the world are also participating in *Acts of Love and Kindness* through the “**49 Bells**” initiative. Places of worship are volunteering to toll their bells 49 times at noon in tribute of those taken last June. To date, more than 30 faith organizations across the western hemisphere have noted their involvement with more to come.

As Orlando nears the one year mark of the tragedy, “*Acts of Love and Kindness*” and “*Orlando United Day*” are reminders that even after crimes of unspeakable evil, there is considerable good within the LGBTQ+, LatinX and other Orlando communities and allies. Foster added, “The overwhelming generosity and activism witnessed in the months since June 12 prove that love conquers all and hate never wins.”

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