



## **RALLY CHANTS**

Black Lives they matter here! Black Trans lives they matter here! Pitt Trans Lives they matter here!

was a freedom fighter and they taught me how to fight.
We gon' fight all day and night until we get it right.
What side are you on my people, what side are you on?
(We on the freedom side) what side are you on my people, what side are you on?
(We on the freedom side)

- ★ Say her name Aaliyah Johnson!!!!!
- ★ What do we want? Justice! When do we want it? Now!
- It is our duty to fight for our freedom It is our duty to win We must love and protect one another We have nothing to lose but our chains
  - ★ Tell the truth!
    Tell the truth!
    Tell the truth!
  - No justice, no peace! No racist police!

\*\*\*Explicit, only if started by leaders\*\*\*

★ I don't see no riot here Why are you in riot gear!

This is not a riot!

- ★ Back up, back up we want freedom, freedom
  Tell them racist ass cops we don't need 'em need 'em
  - ★ Take it to the streets And fuck the police No justice, no peace!









Trans YOUniting 525 E. Ohio Street Pittsburgh, PA 15212

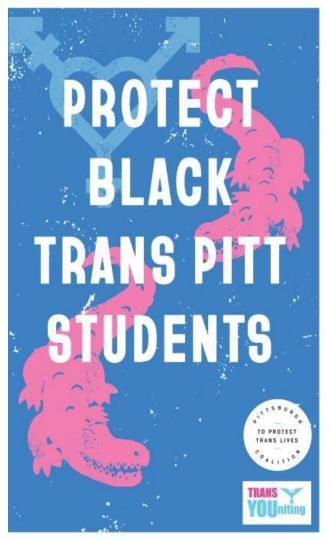
March 22, 2023

Dear community stakeholders and allies of the trans, non-binary, and queer community,

The Pittsburgh Coalition to Protect Trans Lives (PGH-PTL) is a collective of black-led trans, non-binary (NB) and queer community leaders and activists, University of Pittsburgh (Pitt or U-Pitt) students, U-Pitt alumni, and other community supporters, allies, and accomplices in collaboration with TransYOUniting.

Our mission is to protect and uplift the trans and NB community and fight against transphobia at the University of Pittsburgh and in the greater Pittsburgh region. Presently our efforts are directed to addressing the ignorance and negligence of U-Pitt and the students for bringing speakers who harm, violate, and deny the existence of the trans community as well as the queer community at large.

With these concerns, it is with the utmost urgency that we call upon you, our community, for support. We need to mobilize as quickly as possible to prevent these blunders made on behalf of U-Pitt from leading to similar events in the future that threaten the safety of the trans and NB community. By publicly offering your support to our endeavors to organize our vulnerable and resilient community members, you can be part of a movement that can curtail unnecessary harm due to bigotry and disinformation promulgated by these speakers and others they are affiliated with.



This past year alone, nearly forty trans and nonbinary people were murdered in the United States—and, as alarming as those numbers may seem, they are likely vastly underreported. Additionally, the Human Rights Campaign has identified 340 anti-LGBTQ+ bills introduced at the state level, which 150 of those bills would restrict the rights of trans and nonbinary people if signed into law. The time to act has long been upon us, and every day that we stand idly by, the higher the likelihood that harm will continue against the BIPOC trans and NB community, along with the queer community in our region at large.

We hope that you will stand behind us in solidarity to help combat the hatred and bigotry that looms ahead of us. Please consider donating to our efforts here and join us on March 27, 2023 for our Rally and Response to Protect Trans Lives held in honor of Trans Day of Visibility—a day where we honor the lives and the struggles that the trans community faces daily.

We celebrate them as our community. We celebrate our trans and NB community members' humanity. We denounce those who decry the existence of our community members and fight against those who partake in the violence towards our trans and NB community. We remember those we've lost. We give roses to our trans and NB community, particularly centering the uniquely deep oppression our BIPOC and disabled members of community face, daily; we give them roses to show our love and solidarity; to honor the strength, the power and the ability of our trans and NB community to live in this unforgiving world—we celebrate their lives, while they are here—we protect them in life so that we don't have to lay those roses with them in their death.

This Trans Day of Visibility some of our trans leadership in the city will show their power and resistance, and with your support, with us all holding our trans and NB communities up, publicly—our community will not be ignored.

The Rally and Response to Protect Trans Lives rally will be held in Schenley Plaza at The Gazebo Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup> starting at 3:30pm.

Yours in service,

Dena Stanley Executive Director TransYOUniting

The Pittsburgh Coalition to Protect Trans Lives

## LISTEN TRANS PITT STUDENTS





## **OUR DEMANDS FOR PITT ADMINISTRATION**

- We Demand a public apology from U-Pitt for being complicit in bringing transphobic events to the community
- We Demand accountability from U-Pitt to provide safety and inclusivity for the trans community
- We demand that the University of Pittsburgh create a position for BiPoc queer/trans persons
  from the community outside of the Pitt student body as an ombudsperson as a university paid
  position.
- We Demand to include a group of students to vote on U-Pitt campus event speakers
- We demand that the University of Pittsburgh create and establish a series of mandatory programming for their staff and faculty for ongoing cultural competency skills for serving the trans populations, led by a committee of trans students and community members.
- We demand that the university starts going beyond offering "support" and pointing to diversity statement to actively educate students on why this rhetoric is harmful and why trans healthcare is important
- Improved/increased education for staff and faculty and holding to higher standard; ongoing education
- We demand that the \$151.5 million in state appropriation funding received for in-state tuition offsets be distributed equitably to lift up our most marginalized students including Black & Brown TLGBOIA+ students and the TLGBOIA+ community at large.



Resolve Crisis Network
Call the 24-hour hotline:
1-888-7-YOU-CAN (796-8226)

**Trevor Project** 

Call: 1-866-488-7386

**Text: START to 678-678** 

Online:

thetrevorproject.org/get-help

Pittsburgh Action Against Rap
(PAAR)

Call: 1-866-363-7273

