

The Rustin Fund Spring 2019 Newsletter

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**THE RUSTIN FUND
FOR GLOBAL EQUALITY**

Spring 2019 Newsletter

Dear Friends,

Happy Spring! This year is flying by already and so much has been happening in the world. Angola has just decriminalized same sex conduct and introduced protections against discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, a record 10 LGBTQI+ people took office as Members of the US Congress, and Taiwan legalized same sex marriage!

In June WorldPride comes to New York City to mark the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall uprising and a half-century of LGBTQIA+ liberation. In celebration, please follow us on facebook and watch out for our "What Does

Pride Mean to me” campaign. Tell us what pride means to you and use hashtags #RustinFund, #Pride2019, #WhatDoesPrideMeantome. <https://www.facebook.com/rustinfund/>
We have many reasons to be optimistic, but there is still so much work to be done. Please take a few moments to read about recent campaigns and activities.

Your friends at the Rustin Fund,
Amanda, Mark Canavera, Tapiwa, Hua, Kent, Craig and Mark Covey

Recent Campaigns



Meet an Activist

The Rustin Fund hosted a “Meet-an-Activist Happy Hour” in March with Sibongile Ndashe, the Executive Director of the Initiative for Strategic Litigation in Africa (ISLA). At the informal gathering that took place in Harlem at Alibi Lounge, Rustin Fund



J-FLAG

In late 2018 the J-Flag office, affectionately monikered ‘Rainbow House’ suffered severe damage and destruction due to a fire. Rainbow House was a safe space for the community. It was there they held many activities to



Upper Rift Minorities

The Rustin Fund, in collaboration with the Mossier Social Action and Innovation Center, recently fund raised for a campaign to benefit lesbian entrepreneurs in eastern Africa who are developing chicken farms in refugee camps. The farms create a foundation for

supporters and friends heard Sibongile discuss the legal work that ISLA is doing across Africa with respect to women's human rights and sexual rights. Our own Mark Covey talked about the importance of US fundraising efforts for organizations like ISLA that are doing work to enhance LGBTI rights in developing economies. If you would like to donate, please visit the campaign's website at <https://rustinfund.org/2018/04/14/isla/> Also, please check out ISLA's website to learn more about the organization: www.the-isl.org.

build community, educational sessions around laws and policies and human rights, document human rights violations, convene support groups for transgender and non-gender conforming persons and discuss issues such as self stigma and internalized homophobia and transphobia and violence perpetrated against LGBT people. J-Flag, together with The Rustin Fund, started a fundraising campaign at the beginning of the year and we are happy to report that over \$11,000 was raised to start the rebuilding process.

Foundation for economic growth, enabling LGBTI refugees to support their children and sustain their economic independence. If you are interested in learning more or donating please visit our website at <https://rustinfund.org/2018/04/14/east-africa-chicken-farm/> A \$50 donation buys 10 baby chicks, and \$250 would cover the cost to build one chicken coop.

Board Retreat





The Rustin Fund board held it's first in person retreat on Feb. 8-9, 2019. It was a wonderful 2 days of welcoming new members, sharing our history, refining our mission and vision and looking ahead at the next year and 5 year strategies. We are committed to growing our community, cultivating new donor champions and continuing to fund underrepresented groups in the LGBTQI community with the lowest overhead possible. If you are interested in learning more please visit our website or reach out direct to us at info@rustin的角度.org.

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