

"As a family, we are so proud of the Jeremy O Torres Emergency Stabilization Fund.

Jeremy faced many struggles in his life as a gay man, so it was critical to him to help others when they needed it most.

Knowing this fund named in his honor continues to offer support and hope for those who need it means so much to us.

We are proud of his legacy and are grateful for all the work you do for the LGBTQIA+ community."

-Shirley Abernathy and Patrick Torres

(Jeremy's family)



JEREMY O. TORRES  
EMERGENCY  
STABILIZATION  
FUND

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

BPSF recognizes people of all minority sexual and gender identities experience systemic oppression. Therefore, BPSF aspires to empower future societal contributions by helping these individuals address unforeseen financial barriers.

The Emergency Stabilization Fund is named in Jeremy O. Torres's honor because he is part of the fabric of BPSF. He was with BPSF from our initial steps, directed all of our Drag Out Funny fundraisers held at Texas Music Theater, coordinated and involved community members in the Reading of "8" in conjunction with a BPSF donor social, and as our Student Social Coordinator arranged for BPSF to attend Rent and speak with the actors. He was always involved in the San Marcos LGBTQIA+ community, including San Marcos community members. He was 100% behind the establishment of the Emergency Stabilization Fund (ESF) in 2013 and informed students of the support available when disbursements began in 2014. When he passed in 2016 the leadership felt strongly that ESF embodied the love and support Jeremy always offered others. In communication with his mother, Shirley Abernethy, it was agreed we would rename the fund in his honor and his family chose BPSF as a memorial contribution to carry his legacy.



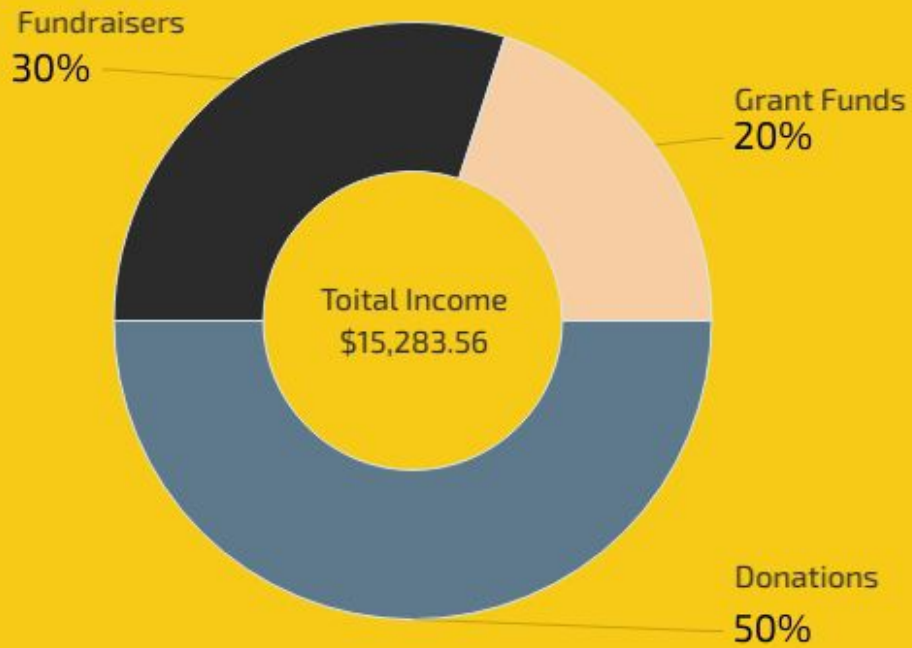
Jeremy O. Torres

*"If my girlfriend and I did not receive help from the Bobcat Pride Scholarship Fund, I truly am unsure of where we would be. Our hours at work were cut due to COVID and we were in the midst of moving apartments with no food or furniture. The help we received was beyond appreciated and more than we could ever have asked for. Thank you Bobcat Pride for believing in LGBTQ bobcats! Thank you all so much again for the help and resources. We have been beyond blessed to know and participate in the Bobcat Pride Scholarship program."*

-Recipient Quote

# Financial Review

BPSF actively secures funding from a variety of sources and engages individuals, organizations, and businesses in San Marcos and Hays County to assist in fundraising efforts.



## Funds Expenditures

BPSF is proud to announce that in fiscal year 2022, over 94% of expenditures were recipient emergency stabilization funds. The Emergency Stabilization Fund (ESF) was established in 2013 to support LGBTQIA+ Bobcats facing an unexpected financial crisis, which could have disrupted their ability to continue in school. Our dear friend Jeremy O. Torres, a faculty member in the Department of Theatre, was part of the fabric of BPSF. When he passed in 2016 the leadership felt strongly that the ESF embodied the love and support Jeremy always offered others and in communication with his mother, Shirley Abernethy, it was agreed we would rename the fund in his honor and expand the fund to accommodate Texas State University students, as well as non-student emerging adults, in the greater San Marcos area.



Recipient Emergency Stabilization Funds



Overhead



Marketing

"I honestly really appreciated being considered and receiving the grant. It allowed me to not worry about groceries for the month, and that really relieved a lot of the stress Covid-19 had put on me at that time."



# Recipient Data

# 100%

of recipients identify as LGBTQIA+

# Total

# 60



100% live within San Marcos City limits  
0% live outside San Marcos City limits



Recipient Pronouns  
30.5% = They/Their/Theirs  
50% = She/Her/Hers  
19.5% = He/Him/His



### Year Born

1996-1997= 7%      1998-1999= 18%  
2000-2001= 57%    2002-2004 = 18%



Recipient Higher Education Status  
68% = in college or univeristy  
32% = not in college or univeristy  
0% = unknown

Texas State University Students = 39 total

"Someone's life, and the situation around us just isn't controllable. I needed all the help I could get and BPSF was there, I legit had no one"

- Recipient Quote

## Leading Reasons for Emergency Assistance Requests\*

- Parents cut me off, financially, when I came out to them/was outed to them
- DACA-related legal expenses
- Missed work due to COVID 19
- Emergency surgery
- Death of relative
- Unexpected car-related expenses (other than no gas)



- Unexpected mental health crisis/suicidal thoughts
- Parents can't help because they are recently unemployed
- Car accident
- Pet-related unexpected vet bills
- Recent sexual assault at work, so quit my job



BPSF was such a huge help in my girlfriend and I's time of need. Even though funds are not indispensable, it was the emotional support and kindness of the staff involved that made this experience so enjoyable.

- Recipient Quote

# \$198

Average recipient amount funded

# \$714

Average recipient-reported monthly income

BPSF recognizes people of all minority sexual and gender identities experience systemic oppression. Therefore, BPSF aspires to empower future societal contributions by helping these individuals address unforeseen financial barriers. The fund supports individuals in a time of unforeseen crisis with a one-time, limited financial support to secure their well-being and/or ability to stay enrolled in school.

## More Client Data

\* All applicants are referred to local social service organizations, as well as federal and state programs, based on individual situations and needs.

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# H i s t o r y

This private fund was founded in 2010 by Texas State alumni and friends as they recognized the progress Texas State had made towards the inclusion of the LGBTQIA+ community yet the lack of resources to support LGBTQIA+ Bobcats. This inspired the group to establish a scholarship fund with two goals: 1) to offer an academic achievement scholarship and 2) to offer a leadership development scholarship to LGBTQIA+ Texas State students. Bobcat Pride Scholarship Fund® was the first ever, private scholarship dedicated exclusively to supporting LGBTQIA+ Bobcats.

In September 2018, BPSF's leadership donated all funds to ALLIANCE at Texas State for the first Texas State University scholarship for LGBTQIA+ Texas State Students. The decision to collaborate enabled the LGBTQIA+ Endowed Scholarship to reach the endowment level, guaranteeing scholarship opportunities for Bobcat students indefinitely!

In August of 2019, BPSF was transferred to new leadership in order to revitalize the Jeremy O. Torres Emergency Stabilization Fund. This Board of Directors expanded the mission to provide monetary support to emerging adults (between the ages of 18 to 25), who have minority sexual and gender identities (LGBTQIA+), residing in the greater San Marcos area. This allows the fund to support these individuals in a time of unforeseen crisis with one-time, limited financial support to secure their well-being and/or ability to stay enrolled in school.

# B o a r d o f D i r e c t o r s



Heather Aidala  
Executive Director and  
Founding Board Member



Stacie McGee  
Operations Director



Teresa Prater  
Internal Communications Director



Karen Gordon-Sosby  
Financial Director



Alex Mylius  
Program Director



BPSF gratefully acknowledges the contributions of former FY2022 Board Members, Dwain Aidala and Megan Campbell.

For more information, please visit:  
<https://www.bobcatpridescholarship.com/>

or email us at:  
[BobcatPrideScholarship@gmail.com](mailto:BobcatPrideScholarship@gmail.com)

Bobcat Pride Scholarship Fund, a recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is private and independent from

Texas State University and any of its organizations. EIN 30-0622176



**Become a donor today**  
<https://www.bobcatpridescholarship.com/donate.htm>  
or at Venmo @Help-BPSF

