



PROPEL Pequannock is a community of citizens joined in solidarity to advocate for social justice. We hope to create a more welcoming environment for all those who are marginalized, and to teach our children to value truth, equity, diversity, and inclusion. Our mission is to communicate respectfully and honestly to promote a more welcoming environment for all races, genders, religions, and sexual orientations.

Formed as PROPEL Pequannock A NJ Nonprofit Corporation in December, 2020, PROPEL actively promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion with our town council, as well as our local library and school district. In our first two years, we have made more than two dozen presentations including... “Developing a Caring School Community,” “The Realities of Bias in Pequannock Township,” “Communicating SEL Advantages,” and “Public Schools, An Incubator of Citizens.”

PROPEL has also been successful with several firsts for our township including:

1. Understanding the challenges faced by the LGBTQ+ community, we coordinated with the Pequannock Township High School Gay Straight Alliance to present to the town council a June Pride Month proclamation. Subsequently the first ever Pequannock Township Pride Proclamation was adopted by our town council for June, 2021 and again in 2022, and 2023. That only three of the five council members signed in ‘22 and ‘23 speaks to the ongoing challenge in our community.

2. Coordinating with all five township school librarians, PROPEL fundraised to provide diversity, equity, and inclusion themed books that the librarians themselves selected. PROPEL members then purchased dozens of books which were provided to each of the schools.
3. More than 90 Pequannock businesses have displayed PROPEL's "Welcoming Pride" window clings on their front doors as a welcoming sign to all.
4. PROPEL Pequannock has donated \$1,000 to The Trevor Project in honor of our high school Gay Straight Alliance.
5. PROPEL Pequannock delivered hot meals to 1st responders at Chilton Medical Center during the height of the COVID pandemic.
6. PROPEL Pequannock donated \$1,000 to the Pequannock Regional Boys & Girls Club in support of their Neighbors in Hardship Scholarship Fund.
7. PROPEL is an active member of the Pequannock School District DEI and District Wellness Committees.
8. PROPEL is an active member of the community's Stigma Free effort. Working with local mental health experts, PROPEL is seeking funding to organize an effort to catalog local, regional, and national mental health resources on a website and make them available to all township residents via QR Code.
9. In June, 2023 PROPEL awarded two \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors at Pequannock Township High School. The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion scholarship was awarded to the student most completely supported PROPEL's mission. The Kindness Scholarship was awarded to the student who demonstrated simple acts of kindness throughout their high school career.
10. In June, 2022 PROPEL organized the first Pequannock PrideFest, an outdoor celebration of kindness held at Greenview Park and enjoyed by more than 1,000 attendees. Participants from the township at the 2nd Annual PrideFest held on June 3rd, 2023 included:

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| Accentuate with LoVe | Atlantic Health/Chilton Medical Center |
| Brody's Bracelets | Boys & Girls Club |
| Color Street Nails | Empanada Times |
| Harper's Amusements | Just Add More Glitter |
| Little Free Library | Music for the Moment |
| Nasty for You | NewBridge Services |
| Om Shan Tea | Pequannock Township Environmental Commission |
| Pequannock Township First-Aid and Rescue Squad | |
| Pequannock Township High School Gay Straight Alliance | |
| Pequannock Township Public Library | |
| Pequannock Township Education Association | |
| Sara Claire Art | Shamrock School of Music |
| TD Bank | |

We also had more than 40 craft and information vendors, music all day long, seven food trucks, and four children's entertainment venues. Our sponsors included American Health System/Chilton Medical Center, TD Bank, Shamrock School of Music, BubbaKoo's, Rita's Ice, and the Pequannock Regional Chamber of Commerce.

We are proud to represent all those who are marginalized in our community, and will strive to continue to do so with integrity and passion.

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