



Basically Wonderful's 2023 Impact Report!



Meet Basically Wonderful!



Basically Wonderful aims to create accessible peer-led spaces that are welcoming to Queer Trans and Disabled communities.

Basically Wonderful is a grassroots organization run by Queer Trans + Disabled folks in Orlando, Florida, USA. Our hope is to create peer-led spaces for marginalized communities where folks are free to express themselves and build friendships with peers who have similar lived experiences. We are creating intentional spaces for both Disabled & LGBTQIA+ folks to commune and thrive in identity-driven spaces.

This organization was created after noticing a lack of intersectional and accessible spaces in Central Florida. We wanted to create groups that encourages our peers to connect & commiserate in a non-judgmental space. Our organization is unique and filled a large gap in Central Florida; not many other organizations offer peer-led social & support groups for Disabled folks, nor do they serve the intersection of being part of both the Disabled & LGBTQIA+ communities. Basically Wonderful has proven how necessary these spaces are in the world; we've reached participants from over 6 different countries, and over 10 states within the USA by offering virtual gatherings. We are proud to be the ones trailblazing a more accessible path for our comrades.



our values



Accessibility: Our goal is to make our spaces as intentionally accessible as we can for our disabled and neurodivergent friends. We acknowledge that accessibility is an ongoing need that can always be improved upon, and we hope to continue to grow and do better as we move forward. Everyone deserves proper access.

Community: We are passionate about creating community spaces that give folks the chance to build meaningful connections with their peers. We want to bring folks together to have fun, build friendships, and share space with each other.

Inclusivity: As a trans and queer-led organization, we put an emphasis on creating welcoming spaces for all LGBTQIA+ folks. We currently offer a peer-led book club for trans folks & a media club for queer folks, and hope to continue to expand and provide more queer-centric offerings.

Intersectionality: As we create groups for many marginalized communities, we want to acknowledge that everyone's individual lived experience is unique and valuable. We welcome and respect any and all intersecting identities that come into our spaces, including any gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, class, religion, abilities, age, and more.

our team

We're proud to have a team of Disabled Queer & Trans friends leading our spaces!



Beck DeTrempe

Founder & Executive Director



Gia Dawson

Event Coordinator



Caroline Pittman

Co-Facilitator of
Disability (Is Not a Bad Word)



Malik Ever

Co-Facilitator of
Queer Media Club



Alex Flynn

Co-Facilitator of
Disabled Babes Book Club



Nicole Torres

Co-Facilitator of If You Give a
Trans Person a Book Club



Loren Lachner

President
Board of Directors



Tony DePalma

Vice President
Board of Directors



Maddie Crowley

Treasurer
Board of Directors



Scuffy Wise

Secretary
Board of Directors

Plus we have 15+ more volunteer team members helping out the organization, including in our Advisory Committee and our Resource Navigation Program team.

our spaces



We have created a variety of peer-led groups for disabled folks to find community, along with a space for our Queer + Trans comrades. All of our groups are virtual, open to anyone anywhere (18+), and free to attend. Groups are hosted in partnership with Peer Support Space. Email us for the Zoom info to join!

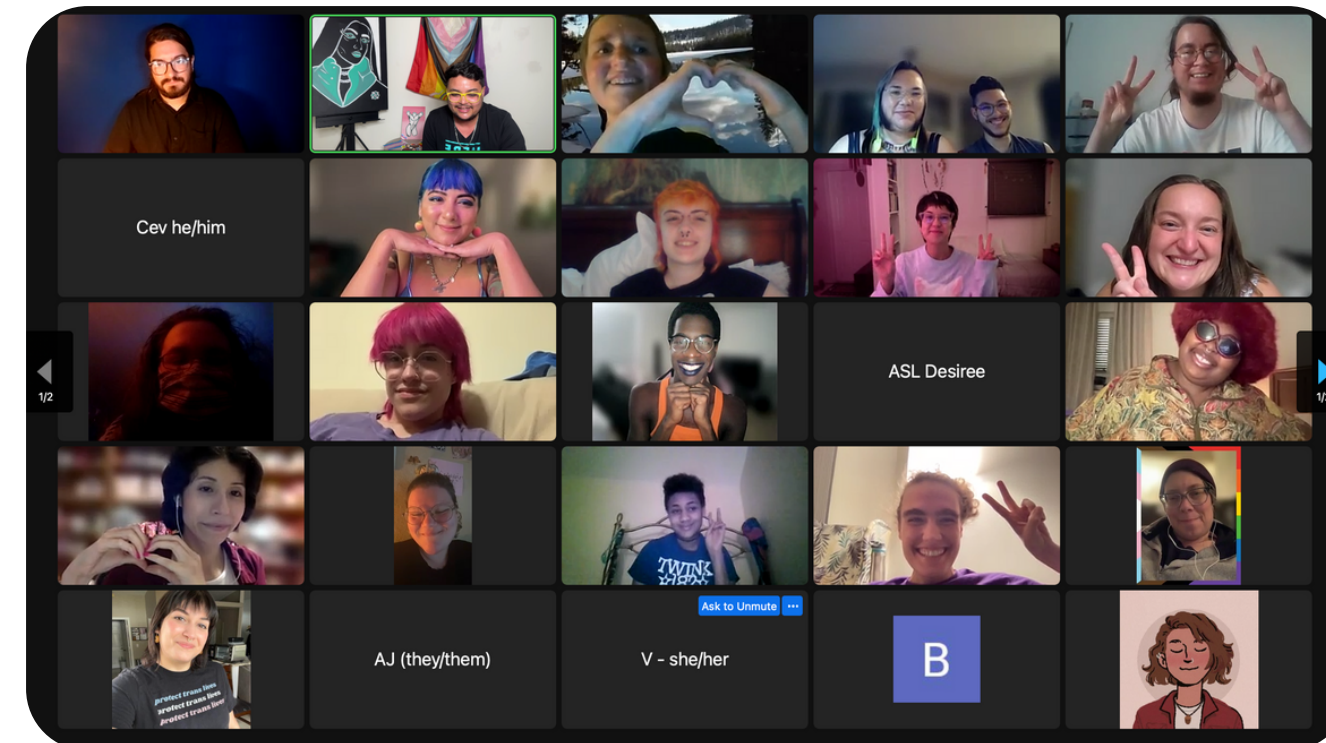


DISABILITY (IS NOT A BAD WORD)

1st & 3rd Tuesdays
at 6:30-8PM EST. A peer-led
space for disabled folks to find
support and build friendships.

QUEER MEDIA CLUB

1st Wednesdays at 7-8:30PM
EST. A group for LGBTQIA+ folks
to discuss queer representation
and tropes in media.



DISABLED BABES BOOK CLUB

2nd Mondays at 6:30-8PM EST.
A book club for disabled folks &
books with disabled
representation.

IF YOU GIVE A TRANS PERSON A BOOK CLUB

3rd Mondays at 6:30-8PM EST.
A book club for trans folks
& books with trans
representation.

We also host **quarterly community events!** 2023's events included our anniversary celebration, a social meetup, a Disability Benefits Panel, creating Self Portraits, pride events, and our Community Conversation! Learn more about all of our spaces on our website: BasicallyWonderful.Online

January 2024 marks our Three-Year Anniversary!

Our grassroots organization has impacted so many lives across the globe! We've connected with over 600 people through our groups, community events, in-person tabling, and collaborations with other organizations. We deserve to celebrate our accomplishments!

In 2023, we hosted..

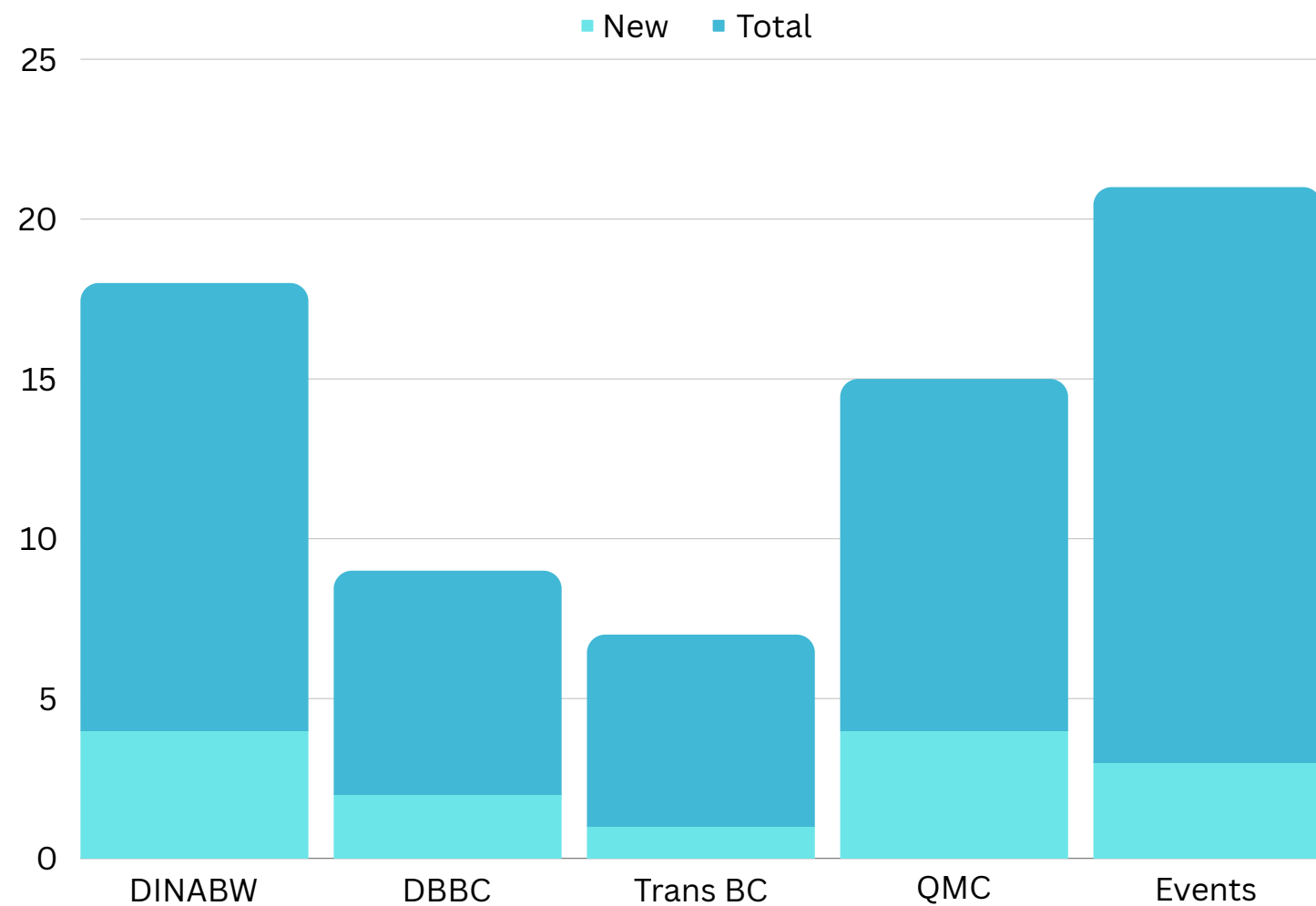
24 Disability (Is Not a Bad Word) meetings
11 Disabled Babes Book Club meetings
11 If You Give a Trans Person a Book Club meetings
8 Community Events &
Our first Queer Media Club meeting!

Not only that, but we also..

Soft-launched our Resource Navigation Program
Vended at Bazaar Botanica's Always Pride Market
Tabled at OQTAA's Pride of Color event
Joined the VSC podcast for their Disability Pride episode
Supported Contigo Fund's Trans Care Fund Committee
Spoke at UCF's Pride of Resilience panel
Joined as a guest on the DRF "You First" Podcast
Vended at Milk Mart's Spooky Soiree
Hired a new Event Coordinator &
Raised \$16,000 for our organization!



our performance



Disability (Is Not a Bad Word) saw an average of 14 people per meeting, with an average of 4 new attendees per meeting.

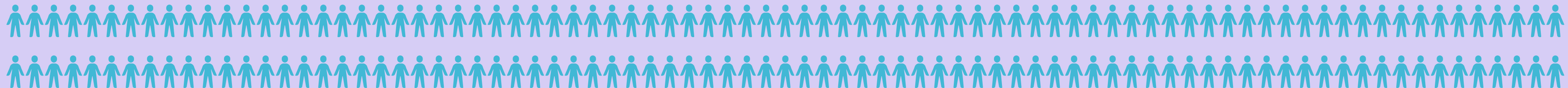
Disabled Babes Book Club saw an average of 7 people per meeting, with an average of 2 new attendees per meeting.

If You Give a Trans Person a Book Club saw an average of 6 people per meeting, with an average of 1 new attendees per meeting.

Queer Media Club Is still new, but we saw 11 people total at our first meeting, with 4 people being new to the organization.

Community Event attendance saw an average of 18 people per event, with an average of 3 new attendees per event.

We connected with 162 new folks in 2023!



our funding

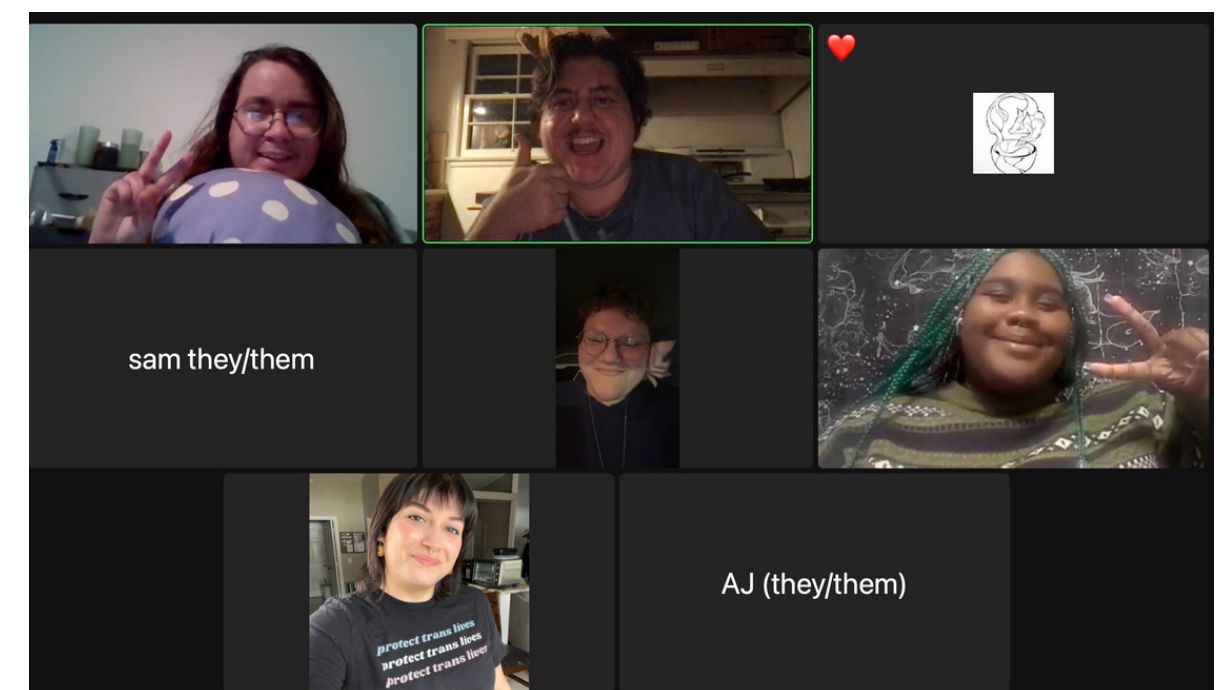
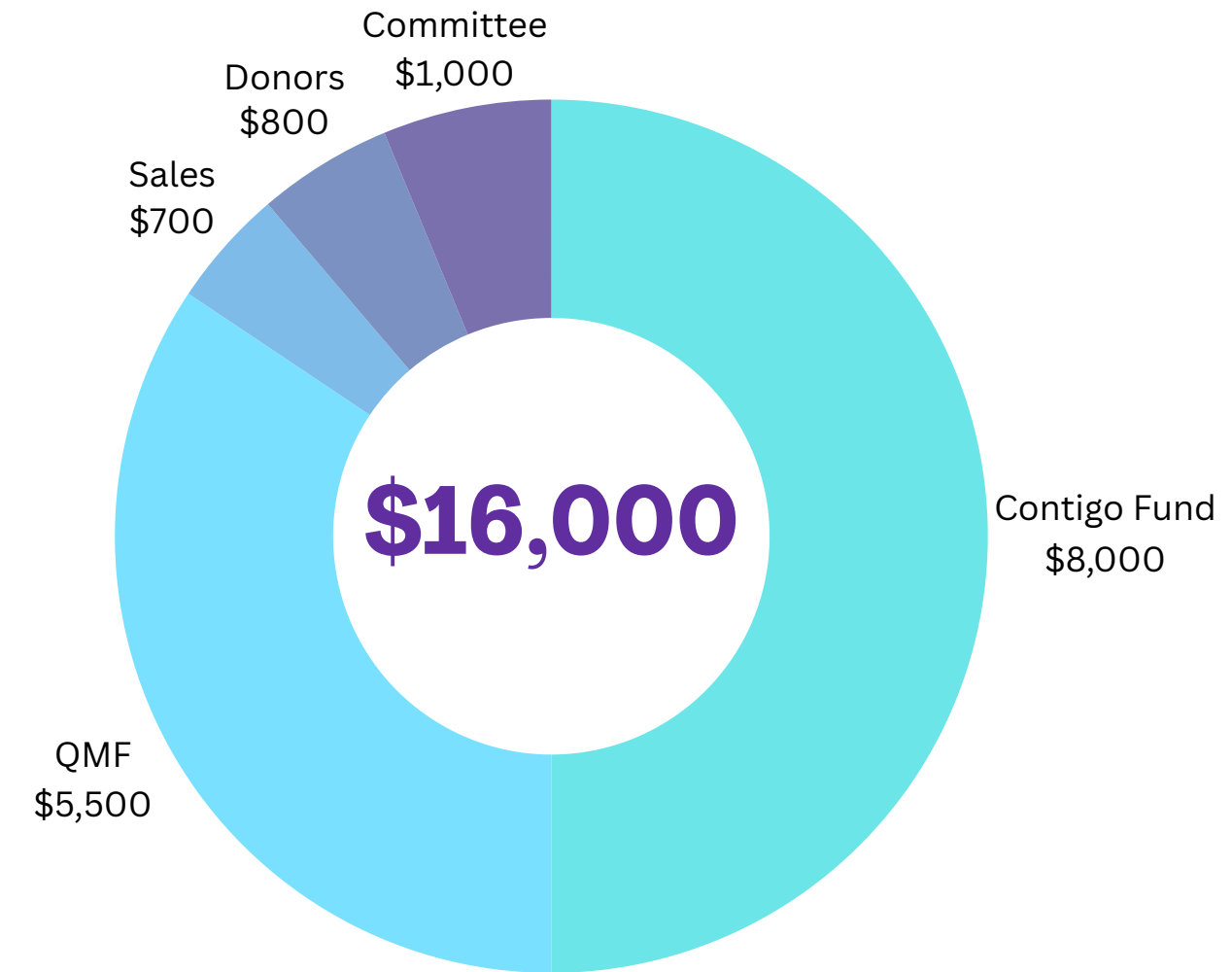
In 2023, we had \$16,000 in funding, raised by individual donors, sales from our merch shop, and grants received from Contigo Fund, Queer Mobilization Fund, and one for being a part of the Trans Care Fund Committee. As a grassroots organization, we rely heavily on community contribution and local funding opportunities to sustain our operations.

Any funding we receive goes towards sustaining our organization, including: facilitation costs, supplies & materials, book club scholarships, website upkeep, administrative team compensation, and our continued accessibility efforts.

We feel strongly about keeping our spaces free for group participants to attend; financial accessibility is so important! Even for events that require supplies to participate, we offer scholarships so that low-income folks can still attend. This is extra important since the communities we serve are historically underserved & kept in poverty.

Our facilitators and administrative team are all part of the Disabled Queer & Trans communities. Disabled folks in particular are historically underpaid for their work, and we'd like to combat that by making sure our team is paid a fair & sustainable compensation. We recognize that we can do better for our team members, and hope to continue raising their pay until they have a livable wage (or higher).

Our goal for 2024 is to raise **\$50,000** to sustain our current operations, launch new monthly groups, launch a new peer-to-peer program, pay our current team a more sustainable compensation, hire more team members, and improve our accessibility measures.



our impact

We surveyed our community members, and here are the results!



84% of people said that they'd recommend our organization to a friend.



On a scale of 1-5, 68% of people rated us a 4 or higher.

84% of people said that they feel more connected to community since attending our spaces.



Words of Support from our Community Members:

- ✦ “It is an attuned, accessible community that promotes learning more about us and for us!” - Rainier W.
- ✦ “I enjoy being able to talk to other chronically ill and disabled people about our experiences. It's hard for us to gather in person so I appreciate the meetings being online. I also enjoy the intersectionality with the LGBTQIA+ community, as I feel being queer and disabled is a unique experience that warrants their own discussions and community!”
- ✦ “Basically Wonderful’s events always make me feel comfortable, cozy, and like I can share in their spaces without judgment. I can always count on BW to be a safe space for me.” - Julien D.
- ✦ “DBBC provides a safe and comfortable space to connect with others in the empowered disability community, which I’ve struggled to find in my small town. I love that I can chat books with like-minded folx and feel valued regardless of my level of participation ... Basically Wonderful has brought light to my year and I am so grateful!” - Sawyer D.
- ✦ “I feel Basically Wonderful allows me to just exist and sometimes I just need that especially since I feel I need to mask a lot.” - Deborah C.
- ✦ “I love the facilitators at basically wonderful events. I appreciate the conversations fostered and I really feel connected to others through your spaces” - Tory

Thank you for your support!

Learn More about us at: BasicallyWonderful.Online

Support & buy merch from the Basically Wonderful Shop:
BasicallyWonderful.Square.Site

Contact Beck DeTrempe with any questions or inquiries:
Beck@BasicallyWonderful.Online

