Ministers Dial for Justice for Transgendered Students

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 25, 2017

Centers for Spiritual Living ministers dial for justice for transgendered students

GOLDEN, Colo. – Centers for Spiritual Living ministers are picking up the phone across the nation to register support for transgender students to use the washrooms of their choice, following the federal government’s decision to roll back protections established under the Obama administration.

Ministers are making calls to the US Department of Justice, the US Department of Education, and their local senators asking for the reinstatement of Title IX, which protects the right of transgender students to use restrooms and locker rooms that match their gender identities.

“This initiative of ours began from a grassroots decision not to take no for an answer,” said Rev. Dr. Kenn Gordon, Spiritual Leader of Centers for Spiritual Living. “We operate from a belief that positive persistent action is what creates change, and that’s what we hope to do.”

The move comes following the Trump administration’s decision that it should be the role of the states – and not the federal government – to make such determinations.

“When it comes to the rights of children, we believe all deserve equal protection,” Gordon said. “Transgendered youth – an estimated 150,000 according to the Williams Institute at the UCSL School of Law – are our country’s children, and as our country’s children they deserve the respect and the space to grow in safety and in love regardless of which state they live in. This is their birthright, as it is every person’s birthright.

Gordon said this marks the second time in less than a month that the LGBTQ community has been targeted with a reverse of hard-fought civil rights. Last month the LGBT rights page on the White House website was removed on the same day President Trump came into office.

“Centers for Spiritual Living sees all people as holding equal value. As a faith community that is home to many members of the LGBTQ community, these recent events are difficult for many of us,” he said. “My hope is that the goodness and the light of compassion will return so that all young – regardless of gender identification – be respected and secure in our schools.”

This marks the second time in less than a year that Centers for Spiritual Living has come out in favor of the rights of the LGBTQ community. This year, CSL canceled its annual convention which was being held in Tennessee this year, following that state’s decision to allow counselors and therapists to refuse to provide treatment for members of the LGBTQ community on personal grounds.

ABOUT CENTERS FOR SPIRITUAL LIVING

Centers for Spiritual Living originated in 1926 in the United States and today represents 400 spiritual communities in 30 countries around the world. Based in Golden, CO, the center teaching a New Thought philosophy focused on the study and practice of Religious Science which is a trans-denominational philosophy that honors all spiritual paths and lifestyles.

For more about Centers for Spiritual Living, see csl.org.

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