Pride Month recognizes and celebrates the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) community. Throughout the month of June, Hackensack Meridian Health will recognize and celebrate Pride Month.

Pride Month is celebrated annually to commemorate the Stonewall riots in New York City.

In June of 1969, patrons and supporters of the Stonewall Inn staged an uprising to resist the police harassment and persecution to which members of the LGBTQ community were commonly subjected. This uprising became a catalyst for the modern gay rights movement in the United States.
In 1970, Brenda Howard, a bisexual New York activist, organized the first Pride parade to commemorate the one year anniversary of the riots. Thousands of LGBT New Yorkers gathered for the Christopher Street Liberation Day (CSLD) March. The success of the CSLD March inspired organizers across the United States and around the world to start what would later be known as Pride Parades and grow into Pride Month.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic NJ's Annual Pride Parade in Asbury Park has been rescheduled to Sunday, October 11, 2020.

New York City’s virtual Pride Parade is scheduled for Sunday, June 28, 2020.

A virtual global celebration is scheduled on Saturday, June 27, 2020 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Stonewall.

https://www.pride.com/pride/2016/6/02/10-things-you-didnt-know-about-pride
https://wearesocial.com/blog/2020/05/virtual-pride-how-the-lgbtq-community-is-adapting-celebrations
Harvey Milk was an American politician who became the first openly gay person to be elected to public office in California. The 2008 film Milk was based on his life.

In 1978, Harvey Milk urged San Francisco based artist, Gilbert Baker to create a symbol of pride for the gay community.
Pride Symbol: Rainbow Flag

Pictured: Gilbert Baker

Gilbert Baker dyed the fabrics himself, and with the help of volunteers, stitched together eight strips of color into a huge banner that spoke volumes: hot pink stood for sexuality, red for life, orange for healing, yellow for the sun, green for nature, turquoise blue for art, indigo for harmony and violet for spirit.

The design has undergone several revisions since its debut in 1978. The most common variant consists of six stripes: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and violet.

*Baker chose to design a flag because he felt that it was the most powerful symbol of pride.*
HMH’s Support of the LGBTQ Community &
The Human Rights Campaign Foundation

The Human Rights Campaign Foundation is the educational arm of the nation’s largest Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) civil rights organization. Their Healthcare Equality Index (HEI) demonstrates an organization’s commitment to the equitable treatment and public commitment to LGBTQ patients, visitors and team members.

Hackensack Meridian Health is proud to have multiple network hospitals receive “Leader” and “Top Performer” status over the years.

Stay tuned for the 2020 HEI results announcement!

To learn more go to https://www.hrc.org/hei
HMH’s Support of the LGBTQ Community

Pride and Allies Team Member Resource Group

The Pride and Allies Team Member Resource Groups (TMRG) is one of six TMRGs supported by HMH.

TMRGs, a strategic Diversity & Inclusion initiative, are network-wide voluntary groups supported by HMH and organized around particular shared interests or diversity dimensions.

The Pride and Allies TMRG at Hackensack Meridian Health promotes awareness, and education about the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Ally (LGBTQA) community. This group collaborates with HMH to create an inclusive and equitable environment for all team members – regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity and gender expression.

For more details visit https://www.teamhmh.com/diversity-inclusion/
Additional LGBTQ Initiatives at HMH

- Diversity & Inclusion Training & Education
  - LGBTQ Cultural Competence and Sensitivity Training
- Inclusive Policies & Procedures
- Community Partnerships and Outreach Programs with LGBTQ organizations