



San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center *Volunteer Spotlight*

November 2009

Roy Ferreira



Roy's involvement with the Center started at a time of major changes in his life. "I had grown disillusioned with my South-Bay, cubicle-bound, low-personal interaction technical career and wished to change to a more people-oriented career in the psychology and therapy areas." Moving to the City to start pursuing this career was easier said than done. "San Francisco seemed a daunting place to get around in and to get to know people. Especially queer people. Where does one start?"

Roy found the Center on Google, and went down to talk to someone at the I&R desk, who was absolutely fabulous and a wealth of information about all things San Francisco. He was introduced to the SNAP program and the Cyber Center which was closed at the time because of the shortage of volunteers. The rest was history.

"The opportunity to put my computer skills to good use helping people in need is exciting. I get to meet new and interesting people all the time. I thoroughly enjoy being in a place dedicated to queer people, where I feel welcomed and accepted. May sound a bit corny, but I do feel it. The Center's programs clearly help a lot of people in the community, and it's so worthwhile volunteering."

One of his most memorable and rewarding experiences, according to Roy, was volunteering for the Homecoming Brunch fundraising event. He was part of a dedicated and fired-up group of volunteers that planned on every aspect of the event. "This was the first event of its kind for the Center, so there was a great deal of uncertainty as to the attendance." The event turned out to be a huge success: the room was packed with appreciative supporters, admiring the real silverware, gorgeous edible centerpieces and well-oiled operation. And we raised much more than we expected! Great experience!

"The Staff at the Center is wonderful to work with and for, especially Joseph. I'm happy to have him on board."