

## IFED 2019: 50 countries and 117 cities worldwide!

Join us and participate to IFED in 2020 worldwide, We call on everyone to celebrate diversity in all its wonderful colors and forms.!

### By joining IFED you can:

Support global **advocacy** to empower rainbow families across the world to be out, proud and progress social change.

Become part of a **global community** of people committed to creating a more open and diverse society worldwide.

Join a global **network** of activists, institutions, associations and organizations exchanging ideas, information and **best practices** to promote equal rights for all families.

Becoming a **member** is easy:



Membership is open to everyone: individuals, associations, institutions, cities, companies.



Becoming a member is easy: it can be done on-line at IFED website: <https://internationalfamilyequalityday.org/become-a-member/>



Annual membership fees are flexible: you can choose how much to contribute starting from only 5 Euros, to as much you can commit to.

### More information and connections

IFED Website:

<http://www.internationalfamilyequalityday.org>

IFED Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/InternationalFamilyEqualityDay>

IFED Facebook Creative Network:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/500398236747224/>

IFED Twitter:

[https://twitter.com/IFED\\_LGBT](https://twitter.com/IFED_LGBT)

Email: [info@internationalfamilyequalityday.org](mailto:info@internationalfamilyequalityday.org)

## INTERNATIONAL FAMILY EQUALITY DAY #IFED2020

FAMILY DIVERSITY  
IN EDUCATION



IFED celebration in Argentina

“ Diversity in education means students feel welcomed, valued and connected – to each other and to the wider community. This won't happen magically, it's the role of educators to ensure an inclusive approach is embed in the curriculum. It demands intention with a purpose — and hard work — this then allows the next generation to be bought up to feel loved and having a sense of belonging! ”

Maivon Whaid, IFED Co-President, Fiji

SUNDAY  
3 MAY  
2020



International  
Family  
Equality  
Day

Celebrating the Rainbow of Families in our World

Every year, all over the world, **on the first Sunday of May**, different families, their communities, friends and allies come together to support family equality.

An occasion to **celebrate** the beauty of family diversity, embracing all families, whatever they size, shape and composition.

A tool to **raise awareness** and visibility of different families; to empower their members and activists; to forge alliances with neighbours, associations and institutions; to promote **equal rights** for all families.

Everyone can contribute and join the celebrations – IFED can be marked in millions ways, from small informal gatherings, picnics, parties, to country-wide marches and manifestations. IFED is widely celebrated both in places where rainbow families are legally recognized and in places with heavily discriminatory legislations.

Originating from the idea of an activist in 2010 and celebrated for the first time in 2012, it has grown exponentially and every year more cities and countries join the movement.

“ School experiences shape a young person’s identity. For LGBTIQ+ young people, having diversity in education and an inclusive school can literally be a matter of life or death. ”

Bess Hepworth,  
IFED Board member



In May 2018, IFED also became an NGO to provide a stronger support and coordination to the IFED movement. The NGOs objectives are:

**Empowerment** by enhancing visibility of LGBTIQ\* families; supporting free and open IFED celebrations; providing capacity building to local associations, enabling different families to connect, network, support each other and share experiences.

**Advocacy** by promoting family diversity around the world; countering LGBTIQ\*-phobia; facilitating forging of alliances within communities and across borders.

**Social and legal acceptance** by raising awareness about LGBTIQ\* families; fostering more tolerant societies and promoting equal rights for all families.

## DIVERSITY IN EDUCATION

**A school where everyone can fit in and feel welcome is a better, fairer and safer place for all. It's a community where no one feels inferior, singled out or left behind. It's a place where respect and diversity are valued and everybody can develop and contribute to their best.**

Our world is increasingly diverse and so is family. Different types of families are more and more widespread. The nuclear family with two heterosexual, married, biological parents is today only one among other possible models. Families with single parents, same sex parents, recomposed, adoptive, foster, extended, elective families... are part of the everyday experience of children. They are all equally valid and deserving equal rights and respect.

Schools, education systems and informal education must recognize, honor, welcome and value such diversity.

For this to happen the ideas and representations of family in the schools, textbooks, education materials, language and narratives need to go beyond stereotypes and to represent different family structures embracing the growing diversity of family life. In this way, diversity in education will contribute to the well-being of all children and to fairer, safer, richer and happier societies.

**Children** need to see their family represented and validated. When this doesn't happen, the door is open to discrimination, exclusion and, sometimes, violence. This affects negatively not only the victims, but also actors and bystanders.

**Parents** need to work together and with the schools to create a genuinely open and respectful environment.

**Teachers** and educators need to be aware, attentive and supportive of all children and their families.

**Administrators** need to ensure that regulations, forms, procedures, communications allow for all families to be included.

**Policy makers** need to encourage and support adequate awareness rising and capacity building of education professionals.

“ Whether in a formal educational setting or not, it is important to recognize and respecting the differences from all individuals in order to create learning environments that are safe, inclusive and equitable for as many identities as possible. ”

Derricia Jael,  
IFED Co-President, Belize