

Trans Day at the State House Remarks by Katie Logue

Hello. My name is Katie Logue and I am Marcus' mom. When Marcus came out to me a little over a year ago I shocked, scared, and in disbelief. My "little girl" was now a boy and was gone. I grieved for my little girl. I tried not to show my grief because more than anything my son needed me now.

I didn't know how to be the mom of a transgender kid. So I looked deep inside and thought about when I found out I was going to be a mom in the first place. I remember people asking if I wanted a boy or a girl and I remember saying that it didn't matter as long as my kid was happy and healthy. It hit me then that it didn't matter that Victoria was now Marcus. He was the same person he always was just happier and truer to himself.

Once I got through this I became scared again. The suicide rate for Transgender teens is very high 41% of transgender teens versus 4.6% of the non-LGBTQ community. I was afraid he would be bullied, lose friends and be ostracized at school if he survived at all. Would he have to drop out and be home-schooled? How was this going to work?! I had no idea.

I still don't have all the answers. I know that my kid still had to use the girls' locker room and the girl's bathroom for a while. The school was able to find a couple of single use bathrooms that my kid can use (even if they are not convenient, they are there). He has been very lucky and his school has tried to accommodate him by finding the non-gender bathrooms and by calling him Marcus.

Everything is not perfect for him but I know that right now he can safely use a bathroom without worrying about getting beat up or harassed. This needs to be case at every school and for every transgender student. I worry what will happen when he moves on to high school. Will he get the same support he does now? I fear that if Gov. LePage gets his way, Marcus and others like him will not get the support and acceptance that they need to feel safe and succeed in this life.