

Becoming a charitable not-for-Profit organization through PRIDE.

Some PRIDE community groups have formed a charitable not-for-profit organization. This means that they have organized themselves consistent with the requirements established through the Internal Revenue Service and are recognized by the government as an official charitable organization.

There are two levels of government you will be working with to establish a charitable organization – the state of Kansas, and the Federal government. Helpful resources for getting started in the state of Kansas can be found at: <http://www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/forming-nonprofit-corporation-kansas-36064.html>

The Internal Revenue Service also has a process needed to apply for a 501(c)3 status, and has several helpful web sites that can support a group interested in the process. A recommended guidance document as you get started is called *Applying for 501(c)3 Status* and can be found at <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p4220.pdf>

Before your PRIDE group begins the process of application, the PRIDE office recommends you first look over these web sites, and look over the information found at <http://www.irs.gov/charities/charitable/article/0,,id=136459,00.html> detailing the Life Cycle of a Public Charity.

Once your PRIDE members have had an opportunity to review the required process, paperwork, and on-going legal commitments of being an public charitable organization, we would recommend your community PRIDE group hold a meeting to discuss the benefits, drawbacks, and trade-offs of becoming a formal 501(c)3 organization.

If you choose to move forward in the process, there are other PRIDE communities that have gone through this process and may be called to advise/mentor you in the process.

Two communities with longstanding 501(c)3 status include:

Park City Pride
316 744-8685
parkcitypride@gmail.com
<http://www.parkcityks.com/>

Melvern Pride
(785) 549-3678
<http://www.melvernks.com/>