

## Windsor Gardens Did the Right Thing

*by Eydie McDaniel*

In 2013 Windsor Gardens HOA took an unusual step. No senior community managers in the entire state of Colorado had ever granted Gay and Lesbian seniors and their friends to gather as a group to support one another. By taking this bold and long overdue step Windsor Garden began to heal more loneliness than can ever be measured.

Cries of the homeless on a cold dark night have often gone unheard, and so many elderly have faced the impact of aging feeling left out, misjudged, and hiding their precious personal identity for fear of unsafe consequences. Here at Windsor Gardens a bridge for ending this cruel isolation now stands. Here people of different identities are allowed the meeting privileges they have long funded for everyone else. Here LGBT human beings know they are not alone.

I wonder how many people have carried the secret of their attractions all alone to their grave. I wonder how much greatness we have all missed because hiding who you are robs so much of the energy it takes to ever become your very best.

Because our HOA has done the right thing, PRIDE Windsor Gardens began in February 2014, and will joyously celebrate five years this February. PRIDE Windsor Gardens has no agenda to change anything or anyone. Every person enjoys simply finding affinity with neighbors. PRIDE Windsor Gardens is glad to be a part of Windsor Gardens and seeks to give positive strength to the fine community we all share.

We are PRIDE Windsor Gardens, Alive and Welcome. If you care about different identities for yourself or for someone else, come on in out of your cold dark night. All you have to lose is your loneliness.