

Stanley Fernandez-Schklar

Stan is the fourth generation of his family to call Nashville home. He is the son of Nadine and Jonas Schklar, and has three younger sisters, Ruth, Janet, and Susan. His husband is Marco Fernandez. They've been together almost 37 years.

Stan's parents kept their family emersed in the Jewish community here in Nashville, taking part in much that the community had to offer. Stan grew up at The Temple, which is where he had his Bar Mitzvah, Confirmation, participated in Temple Youth, joined the Boy Scout troop that was there at the time, and sang in the Volunteer Choir. His family were also members of the GJCC where he attended AZA meetings and spent lots of fun summers at the pool.

After graduating from Hillwood Highschool, Stan attended The University of Memphis where he received a BA in Broadcast Journalism. He also became involved with the Jewish Student Union on campus and went on a Federation trip to Israel.

Stan joined the Board of Akiva School in 2006 and served as Board Secretary until 2013. He also co-chaired two of Akiva School's Torah Dinners. He joined the JFS Board in 2014, was a valuable member of the Executive Board and served until 2022. Stan co-chaired the Chesed Dinner and spearheaded 2 initiatives. One was to raise money for the agency's Adoption Journeys program. Stan co-chaired and engaged others to chair five annual fundraising events with the LGBT community to fund JFS' adoption services. Stan also initiated JFS having a presence at the Nashville Pride Festival. He designed the JFS booth with photos and quotes, and spent many hours engaging with community members about the adoption services provided by JFS. Most recently, Stan was a Chaver mentor for a young member of the Jewish community who could use a little extra-support and be a positive role model. You can't ask for a better Chaver (friend) than Stan!

Stan recently retired from his job at United Steelworkers Union after almost 30 years, and now spends time singing with Nashville in Harmony, a LGBTQ Chorus, and staying involved with the Nashville Grizzlies Rugby Football Club, an organization he and a group of friends started in 2006.