



RRC Office <info@rainbowrosecenter.org>

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## The Rainbow Connection Issue #2 May 2021

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Nate <natile@rainbowrosecenter.org>  
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To: info@rainbowrosecenter.org

Sat, May 1, 2021 at 9:48 AM



# *THE RAINBOW CONNECTION*

**May 1, 2021**

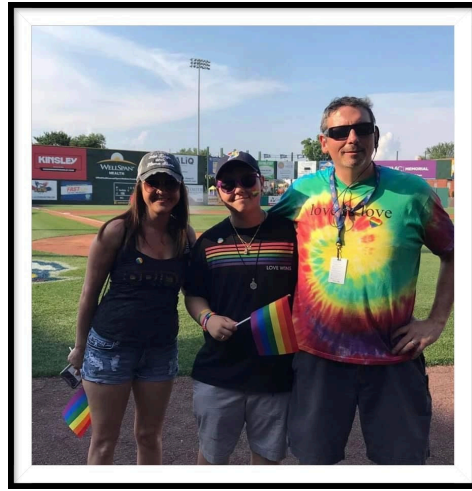
Welcome to *The Rainbow Connection!* A monthly newsletter highlighting programs, upcoming events, and more, brought to you by Rainbow Rose Center, serving York County's LGBTQIA+ Community.

*A Message from the  
Fundraising Committee Chair*

Dear Readers,

My name is Nate Tile and I am the Fundraising Committee Chair for the Rainbow Rose Center. My day job sees me interacting in the York Community as the VP of Business Development at the York Revolution. I'm also a dad, a brother, a husband, a friend, a volunteer, and an ally to the LGBTQIA+ community.

Several years ago my 17 year old daughter came out as a gay teen. She delivered the news to my wife and me by text message. She was afraid that we would be disappointed or would not understand or accept her. Of course, we embraced her and wanted to be sure she knew that we love her unconditionally but I was disappointed in myself that she didn't feel comfortable telling us and had suffered in silence for years. I imagined the many others who do not have a support system or a loving family, and I wanted to do whatever I could to support both my daughter and others facing that struggle. That's why I joined the board of the Rainbow Rose Center.



Several months ago when organization President, Tesla Taliaferro approached me I was thrilled at the prospect of using my connections and sales background to help the organization. The Center provides resources, education, and a listening ear for people like my daughter and for allies like me who want to help. My goal is to seek funding for this organization to help us grow from a mostly virtual resource staffed 100% by volunteers and to get us into a physical location with full-time staff. My first mission was to find sponsors for our York Pride event. That effort, thanks to generous supporters, has been a tremendous success. Special thanks goes to our Presenting Sponsor, Wellspan Health, and to the many other sponsors that have helped us raise over \$20,000! And we couldn't have done it without the time and effort of our team, the Rainbow Rose Center board of directors, and committee volunteers. THANK YOU to all of our sponsors and volunteers, and especially to Wellspan Health.

This endeavor is a great step in the right direction but we are not done. Our next goal is to raise \$10,000 during York's day of giving, [Give Local York](#). The event happens on Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup> when the community will come together to make donations to local non-profits. We are counting on the same level of support that we saw from Pride to come to fruition on May 7<sup>th</sup>. If you are reading this, you are in some way impacted by the work of the Rainbow Rose Center. Your support is greatly appreciated and every dollar goes back to the programs and services the Rainbow Rose Center offers while putting us one step closer to our goals of expanding our outreach. Please visit our website and look for the *Give Local* button to make your contribution on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

Looking ahead to the future of our fundraising efforts, we will be reaching out

to the community to ask for support in the form of annual organization sponsors. We will host fun, safe, and inclusive events such as a Rainbow Run 5K coming up this Fall. We will seek business friends to join us as "Preferred Partners" of the Center. We will raise money through grants, sponsorships, and events to achieve our goal of having a world class resource for people like my daughter and allies like me and you. If you want to get involved, [give me a shout](#). Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,  
Nate Tile (he/him/his)  
Fundraising Committee Chair, Rainbow Rose Center



## Rainbow Rose Center is participating in Give Local York!

Give Local York, the biggest day of giving in York County, is back on May 7, 2021! Our **Give Local Goal** for 2021 is \$10,000! Funds raised will enable us to expand our services, establish a permanent office, and grow our support group offerings to promote the health and well-being of York County's LGBTQIA+ community. Visit our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/rainbowrosecenter](https://www.facebook.com/rainbowrosecenter) to learn more or click on the Give Local York Image to donate!



## **York County's Rainbow Rose Center Named KBA's 2021 Advocate of the Year!**

We are proud to announce that the Rainbow Rose Center has been named 2021 Advocate of the Year by the Keystone Business Alliance, Central PA's LGBT Chamber of Commerce. Recognized as part of the alliance's Business Excellence Awards, the Advocate of the Year is a champion for LGBT equality in Central Pennsylvania, committed to creating change that will benefit LGBT and allied businesses and professionals in Central Pennsylvania. To see the full press release, visit: Fox 43 Press Release



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**JUNE, 5 2021**

**11:00 AM**  
**+ STREAMING**  
**ON DEMAND**

 **RAINBOW ROSE CENTER**



Event Details



**Presented By**



WellSpan Health



**Sponsored By**



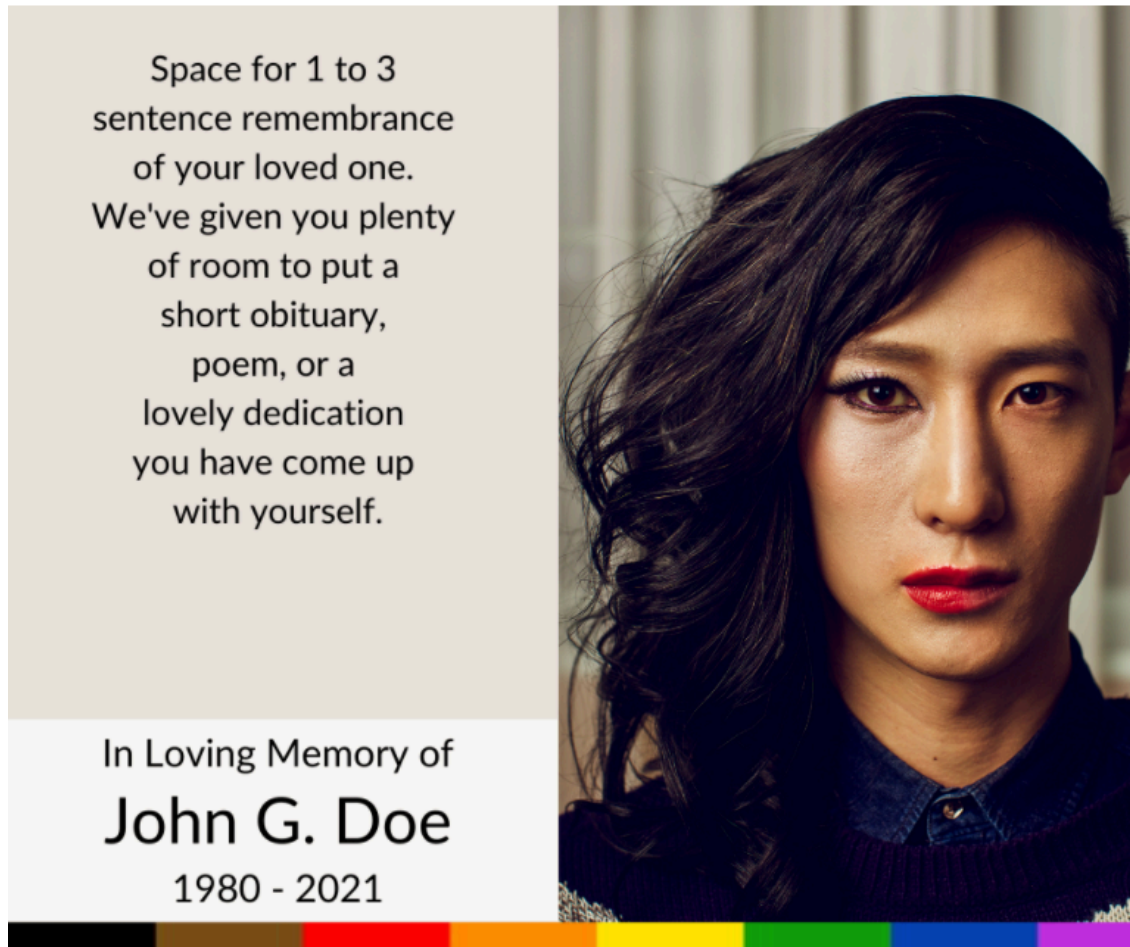
**Additional Allies and Supporters found on our website**

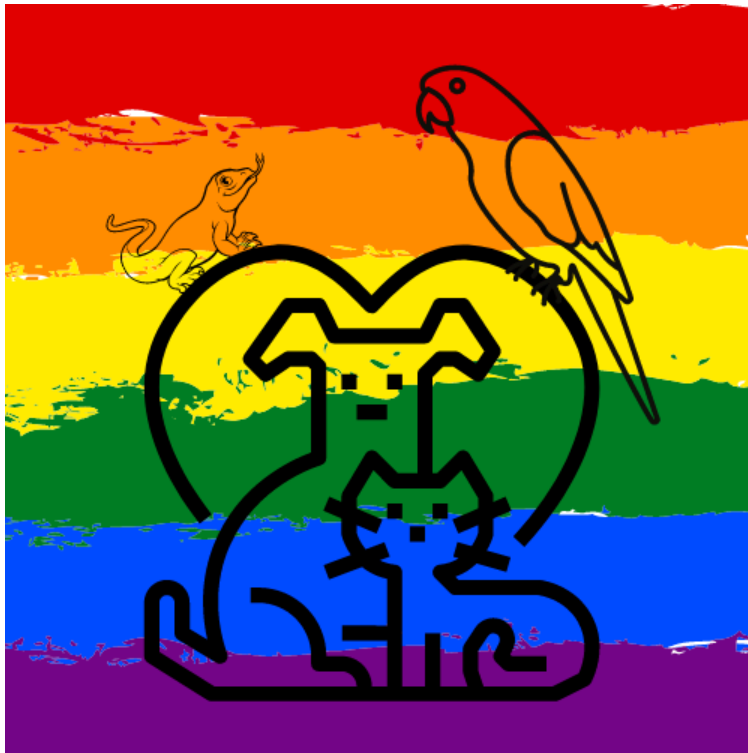
**York County Pride Memorialization**

The Rainbow Rose Center mourns those of the LGBTQIA+ community and allies who have passed on. As the organizers of York County Pride, we are grateful for the opportunity to celebrate our community and commemorate those loved ones we have lost. We offer you the opportunity to memorialize your loved one as part of this virtual event, which will stream on Saturday, June 5, 2021.

If you would like to memorialize your loved one, [please fill out this form](#), which will be open until **May 15th**. The Rainbow Rose Center will take the information you submit and create a single slide of your loved one during an "In Memoriam" portion of the event. We will also be honored to send you the image via the email submitted with the form.

If you have any questions about your submission, please contact Tesla Taliaferro at [president@rainbowrosecenter.org](mailto:president@rainbowrosecenter.org).





## Announcing the 1st Annual York County Pride Pet Challenge!

Show off how your furry, feathery, and scaly family members show their PRIDE!

Now through **May 20<sup>th</sup>** the Rainbow Rose Center is accepting photo entries for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual York County Pride Pet Challenge.

You can submit your entry using the Google Form here: [Pride Pet Challenge Form](#)

Please contact [info@RainbowRoseCenter.org](mailto:info@RainbowRoseCenter.org) with any questions.

Winners will be selected for each of the following nine categories:

- **Best of Canines:** Large Dog, Small Dog, Pet & Parent(s)
- **Best of Felines:** Use of Rainbows, Use of Pride Flags/Colors, Pet & Parent(s)
- **Best of Other Critters:** Use of Rainbows, Use of Pride Flags/Colors, Pet & Parent(s)

Winners will be announced and featured as part of the York County Pride event, presented by WellSpan Health, on June 5th.

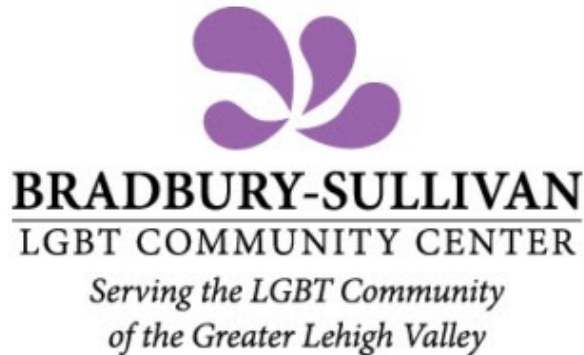
Only natural photography accepted, photoshopped images will not be considered.

Submit one pet per entry please.

Prize baskets for the winners are being provided by our amazing sponsors:

- [Central Bark](#)
- [Go Away Pet Sitting](#)
- [Doggie Dolittle](#)

- [I-Ron-Ic Coffee Shop and Art Boutique](#)
- [Didi and Smiling John](#)



<https://www.bradburysullivancenter.org/>

The Rainbow Rose Center is a Smoke Free Organization. All our events are **SMOKE FREE** in partnership with **Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Center** as part of their initiative for a healthier and longer-lived community! We do not accept sponsorship or vending applications from tobacco, vaping, cigarette, or other similar companies.

If you need information on smoking cessation or are interested in quitting contact the Pennsylvania Quitline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW or contact the RRC Programs Committee at: [programs@rainbowrosecenter.org](mailto:programs@rainbowrosecenter.org)

*Living Proudly. Living Longer*  
**LGBT SMOKE FREE**

LGBTQA populations have increased rates of tobacco use, while also facing challenges accessing and receiving care.

For help quitting smoking call **1-800-QUIT-NOW**

Rainbow Rose Center  
 AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION

### **PROGRAMS UPDATE**

Mark your calendars for May 9, 2021 @ 2:00 p.m!  
 The Rainbow Rose Center Queer and Trans People of Color (QTPOC) is a peer-



led emotional support group for queer and trans-BIPOOC in the York County area. We seek to provide a safe space for Queer BIPOC folx to be able to discuss issues related to Queer BIPOC folx without the worry of backlash or judgement. Therefore, we limit this space to Black, Indigenous, and/or People of Color who identify in the spectrum of the LGBTQ+ Community. This group meets on the second Sunday of every month at 2:00 p.m. We are currently only meeting virtually via Zoom during the pandemic.

Our goal is to protect the safety and confidentiality of everyone who participates in our meeting. Therefore, we are not posting meeting details on social media or in our newsletter. Those who register will receive a notification from the Rainbow Rose Center with meeting details. If you have not previously attended one of our meetings, but you would like to do so, please fill out this form to get on our mailing list.

[Meeting Form](#)



## QUEER & TRANSGENDER PEOPLE OF COLOR SUPPORT GROUP

Second Sunday of every month  
at 2:00 pm



Funded by subgrant from Bradbury-Sullivan Center and the American Lung Association.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page and next month's newsletter for more exciting announcements and support group notifications coming out of the Programs Committee!

**CURRENT PROGRAM SCHEDULE -**

**All Meetings are Being Held Virtually via Zoom Until Further Notice**

**York Transgender Support Group - Occurs 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of Every Month from 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.**

May 22

June 26

July 24

**Queer and Trans People of Color (QTPOC) Support Group -**

**Occurs 2nd Sunday of Every Month at - 2:00 p.m.**

May 9

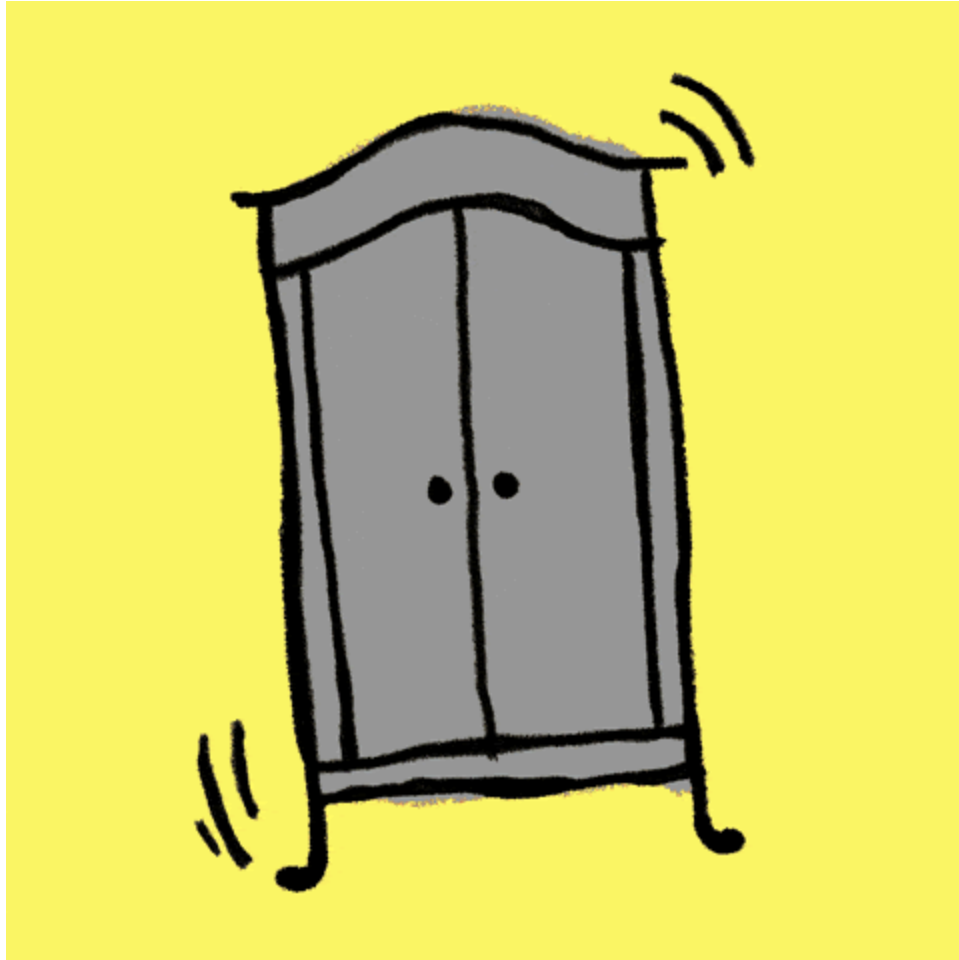
June 13

July 11

Safety is our utmost priority for all virtual support group meetings. To find out more about our Transgender Support Group Meetings, join our mailing list at: [www.rainbowrosecenter.org/programs/](http://www.rainbowrosecenter.org/programs/) and fill out the intake form to receive instructions on how to join the meeting.

For more information about services for our Transgender community in Pennsylvania, visit: [www.TransCentralPA.Org](http://www.TransCentralPA.Org)





### CLOTHING CLOSET!

Fashion is an important part of life. It can mean the difference between finding a job and being sidelined during an interview, between feeling confident and authentic and feeling out of place in your own skin. For members of the LGBTQIA+ community, finding clothing can be a huge challenge. We are more likely to struggle with self-worth, less likely to feel safe in clothing stores and changing rooms, and experience poverty at a higher rate than our peers. We believe that everyone deserves the opportunity to find a look that reflects their inner selves in a safe and supportive environment.

Coming this summer, the Rainbow Rose Center will be hosting a Clothing Closet at various locations throughout York County. The first event will take place on June 26 at one of our 2021 preferred partners, Union Lutheran Church, located on Market Street in York. Then, in July, we'll be heading over to Hanover where we will be partnering with the Hanover Area Diversity Alliance to provide this service to the community. Later this year, we will work with the Dover United Church of Christ to hold a similar event. Dates and times for the Hanover and Dover events will be announced soon.

We've already begun receiving generous donations of much needed items from

members of the community.

Want to participate? Here's what to do:

1. Review the list of items most in need in the community.
2. Gather gently used clothing items that you are preparing to give away.
3. Contact the Rainbow Rose Center at [community@rainbowrosecenter.org](mailto:community@rainbowrosecenter.org) to schedule a pickup at a designated location.
4. Join us at: Union Lutheran Church, [Market Street, York, PA 17401](#) on June 26 from 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m for this Clothing Closet event

## **Most Needed Items**

### **Shoes: (both formal and informal)**

- Feminine Shoes in Large Sizes (Specify size)
- Masculine Shoes in Small Sizes (Specify size)

### **Closet Staples: (that can be dressed up or down)**

- Jeans
- Khakis
- Belts
- Sun dresses
- Polos or button ups
- Blouses

### **Formal Wear: (work-appropriate clothing)**

- Collared shirts/oxford shirts
- Suits
- Pants suits
- Skirts
- Blazers

### **New Personal Clothing Items:**

- Socks
- Undergarments (bras, panties, briefs, boxers, etc...)
- Pantyhose, stockings or tights
- Make-up

### **Gender-Affirming Clothing and Accessories:**

- Binders
- Wigs
- Hats, Scarves



- Vests
- Nail Polish
- Jewelry

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*Join us on Facebook to learn more about Rainbow Rose Center, stay up to date on events and programs, and join the Rainbow Rose community! [www.facebook.com/rainbowrosecenter](http://www.facebook.com/rainbowrosecenter).*

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# Calling All Volunteers!

**HELP MAKE OUR COMMUNITY BETTER BY  
VOLUNTEERING WITH THE  
RAINBOW ROSE CENTER!**

**BOARD MEMBERS  
COMMITTEE MEMBERS  
SOCIAL MEDIA  
DAY OF EVENT SUPPORT**

**CONTACT:  
VOLUNTEERS@RAINBOWROSECENTER.ORG**



**RAINBOW  
ROSE  
CENTER**

Unable to volunteer but still want to support the LGBTQIA+ community? Rainbow Rose Center has partnered with Give Lively to provide you with a secure online donation process.

Visit [www.rainbowrosecenter.org/donations/](http://www.rainbowrosecenter.org/donations/) to learn more.

## Become a Preferred Partner!

The Rainbow Rose Center's Preferred Partner Program is designed to connect our supporters, allies, and the York LGBTQIA+ community with local, likeminded consumer businesses and organizations. To learn more about becoming a preferred partner, click on the link below.

### PREFERRED PARTNER PACKET

We encourage you to support the businesses and organizations supporting you, including:

**THE HANDSOME CAB**  
*Restaurant • Wine Bar • Cocktails • Beer*



Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation of York  
Nurture Your Spirit,  
Help Heal Our World!



Visit us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/rainbowrosecenter](https://www.facebook.com/rainbowrosecenter) or reach us at [www.rainbowrosecenter.org](https://www.rainbowrosecenter.org).

Email us at: [info@rainbowrosecenter.org](mailto:info@rainbowrosecenter.org)

Contact us by phone: (717-746-8738)

**To Send a Letter to Rainbow Rose Center:**

**P.O. Box 1134  
York, PA 27405**



**KEYSTONE  
BUSINESS  
ALLIANCE**

Proud and Active Member



Because **Great LGBT Communities**  
Begin With **Great LGBT Community Centers**

[www.lgbtcenters.org](http://www.lgbtcenters.org)

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