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THE RAINBOW CONNECTION

October 2, 2023

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.

Hello York County LGBTQIA+ and Ally Community!

After a restful and rejuvenating hiatus, I am honored to return to the Rainbow Rose Center board. I want to thank everyone for your understanding and patience as I took the summer off. My time away from the duties of running the organization allowed me to focus on my mental health, plan for my wedding this month, and re-energize my mind, body, and spirit through both pleasure reading and gardening. I thoroughly enjoyed my time away and am now excited to be

From everything I have seen and heard, the Rainbow Rose Center continued to thrive wonderfully in my absence. Our organization's wonderful board of directors picked up the slack that I had to set down for a time. I am so appreciative and impressed by the amazing work they continued to do! I am especially excited to see the All Adult Identities group starting back up, and to see our support groups moving to a hybrid format.

While I am back, I do not intend to take on as heavy a workload as I did previously. Going forward, I hope to be much more focused on the overall operations of the Rainbow Rose Center and not get caught up and/or in the way of the more detailed work that I often found myself lost in. I will be available in a supportive role to all of the Board, while my focus remains on the Board's governance, including the organization's mission, strategy, and goals.

That being said, the Rainbow Rose Center Board is filled with capable, compassionate, and committed individuals who are here to help support the community in a variety of ways. So, here's how to get in touch with the right people:

How to Contact Our Executive Committee
executives@rainbowrosecenter.org

If you are interested in having the Rainbow Rose Center at your community event or are in need of volunteers for your event you can reach Laura Cohen at community@rainbowrosecenter.org. You can also reach Lori Riddle if you are a GSA advisor or youth in York County at the same

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For questions regarding events, including performer and vending opportunities, please contact Christina Wingert at events@rainbowrosecenter.org.

Contact Nate Tile for questions about sponsoring the Rainbow Rose Center or to become a Preferred Partner at fundraising@rainbowrosecenter.org.

Cheyenne Gunn is your go-to for media statements and marketing opportunities, and they can be reached at marketing@rainbowrosecenter.org.

If you are interested in our support groups, or if you would like to help moderate a program, please contact Lauren Forrest at programs@rainbowrosecenter.org.

Shanna Hollich manages our Resources Committee and culturally competent service providers, businesses serving the LGBTQIA+ community in and around York County. Connect with them at resources@rainbowrosecenter.org

And for those interested in volunteering, or in joining the Board to lead our amazing community volunteers, please contact Maria Gable (our Vice President and Executive Liaison to the committee) at volunteers@rainbowrosecenter.org

For general information and inquiries, you can always contact info@rainbowrosecenter.org. You can also call and leave a message at 717-746-8738 and a Resource Specialist will return your call.

I look forward to leading the Rainbow Rose Center for the next year and few months, and to working

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future for the Rainbow Rose Center and a safer and more accepting place for our York County LGBTQIA+ Community.

With Honor and Gratitude,

Tesla Taliaferro
President
He/They

Please join the Rainbow Rose Center at FAB 2023 on Saturday, October 7 from 6:00-9:00 PM at the Hershey Lodge!!! This wonderful fundraiser for the LGBT Center of Central PA will be celebrating the 30th Anniversary of Common Roads, their youth program which continues to do life-changing and life-saving work. The awards ceremony will recognize three community leaders - Barry Loveland, our own president Tesla Taliaferro, and Lou Kirkland. There will be good people and good food, a fun and meaningful program, drag performances from the one and only Sundae Best Variety Show, dancing, and more!



Register at <https://bit.ly/FAB2023TICKETS> by TODAY, October 2.

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LGBT History Month is celebrated from October 1-October 31. LGBT History Month is an annual month-long observance of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender history and the history of gay rights and related civil rights movements. Rodney Wilson is credited with creating Gay History Month. A high school teacher at Mehlville High School in suburban St. Louis, Wilson became the first openly gay K-12 teacher in the state of Missouri in 1994 when he came out to his history class during a lesson about the Holocaust. He explained that if he had lived in Germany during World War II, he likely would have been imprisoned and murdered by the Nazis for being gay. October was selected as Gay History Month because schools are in session, and it is the month in which the first national march for lesbian and gay rights occurred and National Coming Out Day is celebrated.

If you want to learn more, listen to Making Gay History,
The Podcast
<https://makinggayhistory.com>

National Banned Books Week



schools and libraries and often books by and about our LGBTQIA+ community are impacted. We have seen this in the Central York School District book ban that made national news in 2021 when the School Board banned books designed as teacher resources with a variety of topics, including books by and for the LGBTQIA+ community. According to [PEN America](#), 41% of banned books at libraries have LGBTQIA+ themes.

[NPR](#) states there has been a 33% increase in the number of books being banned across the United States. But polling by [NPR/Ipsos](#) finds that 64% of American oppose book banning by School Boards, and 69% oppose book bans by state legislatures.

What can we do to stand against this?

1. [Register to vote](#) and vote for candidates who oppose book bans. (last day to register to vote in PA is Monday, October 23, 2023)
2. Attend school board meetings and stand up for free speech.
3. Read banned books and share with friends and family.

So, this banned books week, why don't you pick up a banned book and get [reading](#)!

PEN America link: [Book bans are getting everyone's attention — including Biden's. Here's why](#) : NPR
register to vote link: [Voter Registration Homepage](#)
NPR Link: [School book bans show no signs of slowing, PEN America finds](#) : NPR

Reading link: [Human Rights Campaign Foundation Releases List of LGBTQ+ Affirming Books In the Wake of Discriminatory Book Bans Across the Country - Human Rights Campaign \(hrc.org\)](#).

Where to Find Us in October



Homecoming Out in the Rainbow Rose Garden

Saturday, October 14 - 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

YWCA Hanover

West Chestnut Street

Hanover, PA 17331



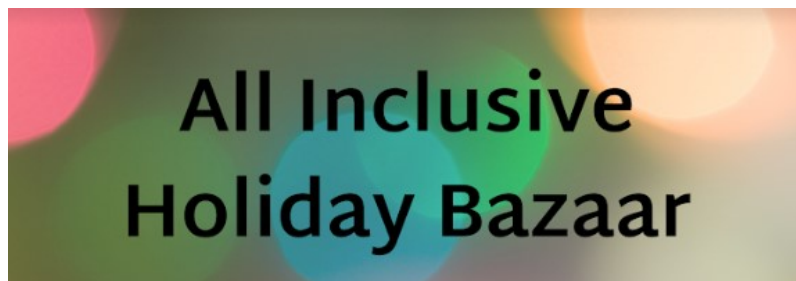
Join us as we celebrating Coming Out! Come out to the Rainbow Rose Garden and enjoy a tea party themed buffet of yummy foods from Snacktown Kitchens. Dance to the sounds of Dj GiGi and Dj Coco, and get that Homecoming picture taken that you've always wanted too. Come however you'd like, making sure to always express your true self! This event is FREE, but we need you to reserve your

Save the Date



Transgender Day of Remembrance
Sunday, November 19 - 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Red Lion Recreation Center
Fairmount Park
190 S Charles Street
Red Lion, PA 17356

The Rainbow Rose Center will be holding a Transgender Day of Remembrance event on November 19th at the Red Lion Recreation Center. We encourage you to join us as we honor our Transgender brothers and sisters who lost their lives this past year.



2nd Annual Inclusive Holiday Bazaar!
Saturday, December 9
The Markets of Hanover
1649 Broadway
Hanover, PA 17331

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Holiday Bazaar! Are you looking for just the right gift for a member of the community, then look no further than this All Inclusive Holiday Bazaar. Lots of unique gifts for everyone in your life! Still accepting vendor applications! Click [HERE](#) to apply to be a vendor.

Events We're Excited About

QUEER YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT
FREE!
 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 AT 7PM
 CAPITOL THEATRE · YORK PA

LOVE, SIMON

ALL GUESTS GET 1 FREE POPCORN!
 Scan to pre-register

APPELL CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Questions? Contact AJ Myers, Director of Education & Community Engagement, at ajmyers@appellcenter.org

Queer Youth Movie Night

October 19, Starts at 7:00 p.m.

Capitol Theatre

50 N. George Street

York, PA 17401

Scan the QR code above to register.

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Announcing The Keystone Family Retreat

Announcing the inaugural Keystone Family retreat, hosted by [TransCentralPA](#) and the [Keystone Conference](#). Realizing the unique needs that families have when raising a trans or non-binary child, we have created the Keystone Family Retreat to help meet those needs. This inaugural event is focused on providing opportunities to learn and network with each other. We want you to find support and friendship, further your knowledge of trans issues and to have an enjoyable and uplifting experience. So please join us for what we hope will be an informative and inspirational time for you and your loved ones.



The Keystone Family Retreat

November 10 - 12

Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel

4650 Lindle Road

Harrisburg, PA 17111

For more information,
visit: <https://keystonefamilyretreat.org/>

Help Wanted!

The Fundraising committee is looking for new committee members to help raise money for the organization. The committee meets once a month for just one hour with work on-your-own between meetings. If you are not comfortable asking for money you can help in other ways:

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- Provide ideas on businesses to call
- Tell your story to potential sponsors

For more information contact Nate Tile at 717-801-4482
or ntile@rainbowrosecenter.org

There are Plenty of Volunteer Opportunities Throughout the Year!

By volunteering with the Rainbow Rose Center, you have the opportunity to make a positive impact in our beautiful community. Volunteering also presents the chance to meet and bond with likeminded LGBTQIA+ folks and allies! There are so many ways to get involved as a volunteer at the Rainbow Rose Center, and we have opportunities for volunteers of all ages! Each volunteer adds value to our organization, and we greatly cherish each individual that dedicates time to help our cause.

**Sign up to become a volunteer
[HERE.](#)**

Don't have time to volunteer but still want to contribute?

Consider making a donation to support the Rainbow Rose Center!

Your support helps our Resource Specialists provide invaluable information to members of the LGBTQIA+ community on where they can go to get the help they need to thrive right here in York County! Donate directly on our

Program Schedule

Check out our upcoming meeting schedule below for dates and times!

Gender Diverse Support Group

Occurs 4th Saturday of Every Month from 8:30 p.m. -
10:00 p.m.
October 26

Queer and Trans People of Color (QTPOC) Support Group

Occurs 2nd Sunday of Every Month from 2:30 p.m. - 3:00
p.m.
October 8

Living Proudly HIV Support Group

Occurs 3rd Wednesday of Every Month from 6:00 p.m. -
7:30 p.m.
October 18

All Adult Identities Social Group

We had such a great kick off to the start of our All Adult Identities Social Group! Thank you to everyone who came joined us! Join us again in October as we plan out our year of fun activities and social gatherings! We will be at the Rainbow Rose Center on Oct 12 and again on Oct 22. Please reach out to Christina Wingert with any questions! Cwingert@rainbowrosecenter.org

Thursday, October 12 - 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

&

Sunday, October 22 - 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

at the

Rainbow Rose Center
2930 Carol Road

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The Silver Triangle

Coming soon, sign up for our new support group for LGBTQIA+ adults age 50+ at:

[Silver Triangle Signup](#)

Check the [Rainbow Rose Center Website](#) or visit us on [Facebook](#) for updates!

Safety is our utmost priority for all virtual support group meetings, so we do not publish meeting link details publicly. To participate our meetings, join each group's mailing list at:

[Rainbow Rose Center Support Groups](#)

and fill out the intake form to receive instructions on how to join the meeting.

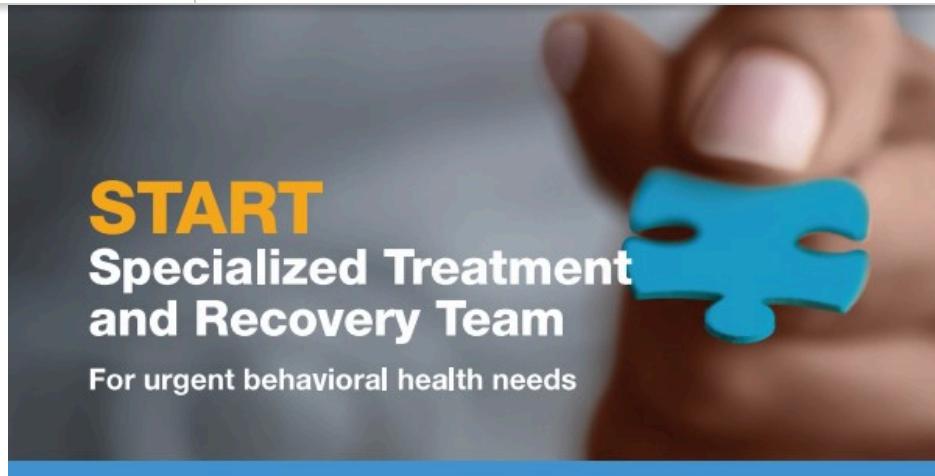
Build the Financial Health of the LGBTQ+ Community Survey from Experian and Out & Equal



In partnership with Experian, Out & Equal is charting a bold path to assess the credit health of the LGBTQ+ community, leverage public education campaigns to support the community, and work with employers to support the financial health and empowerment of the LGBTQ+ community.

[PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO LET US KNOW MORE ABOUT YOU FOR THIS IMPORTANT EFFORT.](#)

Understanding our financial health is worth it.



START can help you get on the road to recovery and wholeness with the support of our diverse and multi-disciplinary care team, in a trauma-informed, patient-centered setting.

You'll receive a truly integrated care experience that includes screening, assessment and diagnosis of mental health and substance disorders, and related primary care screening. Through extensive collaboration with community partners, **START** will provide referrals for housing, job skills training, child care access and other support services, as needed.

Location

WellSpan Philhaven **START**
Loretta Claiborne Building
605 S. George St.
Suite 100
York, PA 17401

Phone

(717) 356-5060

Hours

Monday – Thursday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

WellSpanPhilhaven.org/START

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START also partners with the Community Action for Recovery & Diversion project (CARD) and the York County criminal justice system to recognize opportunities when treatment for individuals with substance use or mental health disorders could be a more appropriate path than incarceration.

Services We Offer

- Mental health and substance use disorder services
- Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)
- Crisis mental health services
- Primary Care screening and monitoring of key health indicators and risks
- Recovery and Peer Support services
- Care coordination and social services

START is a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC), the first of its kind in south central Pennsylvania.



Visit the [Rainbow Rose Center website](#) for exciting new additions, program offerings, services, and more!

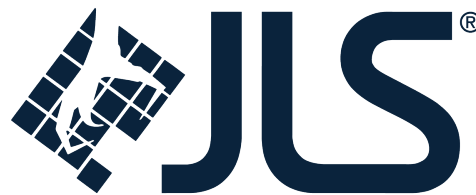
Thank You to Our Sponsors!

the resources, services, and programs the York County LGBTQIA+ community needs and deserves. And it allows for creative solutions necessary to allow all York County individuals to feel safe and welcome in their everyday lives.

CHAMPION



LEADERS



ALLIES



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Pennsylvania



If you are part of an organization or business that would be interested in becoming an Organizational Sponsor, please reach out to Nate Tile at fundraising@rainbowrosecenter.org.

Thank You to The Markets at Hanover and St. Paul's UCC Dallastown for becoming Preferred Partners!



The Markets at Hanover is a year-round indoor farmers market and food court featuring local, independently owned shops and unique restaurants and an onsite brewery and pub.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Dallastown is an open and affirming congregation. Their motto is "Living like Jesus with love and justice for all." They welcome everyone who wants to join them.

Visit Our Preferred Partners!

The Rainbow Rose Center Preferred Partner Program is designed to connect our supporters, allies, and the York LGBTQIA+ community with local consumer businesses and organizations that are passionate about equality and acceptance. Our Preferred Partners support our community every day by creating environments where people of all backgrounds can feel safe, supported, and welcome. We are proud to partner with the following organizations and businesses and encourage members of the York community, both LGBTQIA+ and allies, to visit and support them. Be sure to keep a look out throughout York County for our Preferred Partnership logo!



Current Preferred Partners include:

Heidelberg United Church of Christ
York Revolution
Appell Center for the Performing Arts
Opera Susquehanna
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of York
Union Lutheran Church
DreamWrights Center for the Community Arts
The Cantina
White Rose Bar & Grill
The Left Bank Restaurant & Bar
The Handsome Cab

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[Kinetic Kreations](#)
[Fresh Start Law](#)
[Family First Health](#)
[Thrivent](#)
[The Markets at Hanover](#)
[St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Dallastown](#)

Become a Preferred Partner!

If you are part of an organization or business that would be interested in becoming a Preferred Partner, please visit our website at

<https://www.rainbowrosecenter.org/resources/preferred-partners.html> or email Nate Tile at fundraising@rainbowrosecenter.org.

Rainbow Rose Center Affiliations



**KEYSTONE
BUSINESS
ALLIANCE**

Proud and Active Member



The Rainbow Rose Center is a Tobacco Free Organization. All our events are SMOKE FREE as part of our desire for a healthier and longer-lived community! We do not accept sponsorship or vending applications from tobacco, vaping, cigarette, or other similar companies.



The Rainbow Rose Center is honored to partner with WellSpan

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community quit. We also provide health educators, regular group cessation classes, one-on-one counseling, and additional support. [Find out more](#) and [register today!](#)

If you need information on smoking cessation or are interested in quitting contact the Pennsylvania Quitline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW or contact the Rainbow Rose Center Programs Committee at: programs@rainbowrosecenter.org

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.

Visit us at www.rainbowrosecenter.org.

Email us at: 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

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