



THE RAINBOW CONNECTION

September 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.

Welcome Note from Maria McCargo Gable, Vice President

Hello everyone! My name is Maria McCargo Gable and I serve as the Vice President of the Rainbow Rose Center. When I moved to York 12 years ago, I looked for places to volunteer to learn about my community. I began volunteering for Equality Fest in 2015. I continued to volunteer with the organization through its transition to the Rainbow Rose Center.

I am passionate about supporting the LGBTQIA+ community and I believe that everyone deserves to live as their true authentic self, without fear of discrimination. It is especially important to me as an African American lesbian to make sure our voices are heard and we are represented. As a board member and volunteer, I use my voice to advocate for inclusive spaces where everyone feels welcomed. Last summer, I was honored to lead a march in solidarity with Black Lives Matter and Trans Women of Color. I was overwhelmed with feelings of despair and anger as we spoke the names of people whose lives were cut short due to senseless hatred. At the same time I had feelings of hope, love, and the power of community. I was very proud to represent the Rainbow Rose Center and to lead this march.

I recently attended another event that gave me great feelings of pride. As a result of our



I look forward to continuing serving the community. Hopefully, I get a chance to meet some of you at our upcoming events.

In Solidarity,

Maria McCargo Gable
Vice President of the Rainbow Rose Center

Rainbow Rose Center is the Proud Recipient of Two Awards!



The Rainbow Rose Center is honored to have been named the Keystone Business Alliance 2021 Advocate of the Year and to have received the Downtown First Award 2021 Outstanding Nonprofit Organization!

We were humbled to have been in the same category with such outstanding organizations as Bell Socialization Services, Crispus Attucks York, The Program, and York Fresh Food Farms. All organizations help make York County a better place, and we cannot express how excited we are to be among those nominated.

Thank you to everyone who's helped make the Rainbow Rose Center worthy of these awards!

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our [Facebook Page here!](#)

To learn more about these awards, visit: [The Rainbow Rose Center!](#)

2021 HANOVER DIVERSITY FESTIVAL/SNACK TOWN STREET FAIR

SEPTEMBER 18, 2021
8:00 a.m - 4:00 p.m.

Join us at the 2021 Hanover Diversity Festival/Snack Town Street Fair! This family-friendly, all-inclusive event will feature multi-cultural entertainment, food, vendors, a street art contest, and more! Visit the Rainbow Rose Center booth and connect with us, learn more about our community involvement, and pick up some free swag while you're there! For more information about this event, visit: [Discover Hanover](#) or the [Hanover Diversity Festival on Facebook!](#)



Hanover Diversity Festival

Coming Out Day Celebration & Blessing October 9 and 11, 2021



Join us on Saturday, October 9th at the White Rose Bar and Grill for a fun-filled Coming Out Day Celebration. Registered participants for the Rainbow Rose Virtual 5k can pick-up their race packet during the daytime event.

Outdoor and socially distanced. Family-friendly activities and performances from noon to 4:00 p.m. Entertainment continues all day long, including a 21+ drag show at 7:30 p.m. Afternoon event with

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The Coming Out Day Blessing will be held at Union Lutheran and streamed virtually on Monday, October 11th. Details to follow in the October newsletter!

Join us for the first ever Rainbow Rose Center virtual Rainbow Run 5k!



We will kick off the race on Coming Out Day - Monday, October 11, 2021. National Coming Out Day encourages LGBTQIA+ people to take pride in who they are and come out to friends and family as a member of the LGBTQIA+ community! It is a day of celebration, and what better way to celebrate than running or walking a 5k?

In this virtual run, you have over a whole month to complete your race and submit your results!

The race goes through November 20th, which is Transgender Day of Remembrance. On this day, we honor the names and lives of transgender people whose lives we lost in acts of violence with a candlelight vigil. We hope you will join us as we take the time to remember those whose lives were lost solely because of who they are.

Races are more fun with friends, so invite your friends and family to join us in this great opportunity to get physically fit and support a great cause! This event is open to EVERYONE, regardless of age or ability.

Registration for the race is \$40.00 and includes:

1. Cotton race t-shirt
2. Rainbow socks
3. Race bib
4. Flying Feet Sport Shoes coupon
5. 2 tickets to a York Rev's baseball game

To register, go to [RunSignUp](#).

If you have any questions about this race, please contact the race directors, Christina Stetler and Melanie Playdon, at rainbowrun@rainbowrosecenter.org.

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includes support groups for Transgendered individuals, those living with HIV, and Queer Transgender People of Color (QTPOC). Your registration also help the Rainbow Rose Center take the big step of finding a physical location and make additional resources available to the LGBTQIA+ community!



Looking for a fun event for the **WHOLE** family? Then mark your calendars and get ready for an event the whole family will love! 30+ Vendors, Food, Bouncy House, Games, Live Dog Training Demos, Trick or Treat for the kids, Pet Adoption, Rescues, Raffles, Face Painting, and Pet Dress Up Contest! While you're there, stop by the Rainbow Rose Center booth. We look forward to seeing you there!

Where: Central Bark York, 3615 East Market Street, York, PA

When: Saturday, October 23rd, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Social Dogs on Leashes Welcome. [Click on the flyer to learn more.](#)

Visit the [Rainbow Rose Center](#) for exciting new additions, program offerings, services, and more! Don't forget to check out the Rainbow Rose Center's new digital pamphlets:

[Rainbow Rose Center Main Pamphlet](#)

CURRENT PROGRAM SCHEDULE

We are currently only meeting virtually via Zoom but this may change in future months.

York Transgender Support Group

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

September 25

October 23

November 27

Queer and Trans People of Color (QTPOC) Support Group

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

September 12

October 10

November 14

Living Proudly HIV Support Group

Occurs 2nd Wednesday of Every Month from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

September 8

October 13

November 10

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:

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



Calling All Volunteers!

Thanks to everyone who has signed up to be a volunteer.

We're excited to say that we're back to onboarding volunteers. So if you sign up, we'll be in touch with you soon about the onboarding process.

For those who are interested in helping to make our community better,

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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/ to learn more.



BRADBURY-SULLIVAN
LGBT COMMUNITY CENTER

*Serving the LGBT Community
of the Greater Lehigh Valley*

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

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

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:



Proud and Active Member



Because Great LGBT Communities Begin With Great LGBT Community Centers
www.lgbtcenters.org

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:



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



Union Lutheran Church, York, PA
www.unionlutheran.org



Center for Community Arts

Building characters for life



Restaurant • Wine Bar • Cocktails • Beer

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/preferred-partners/> or email Nate Tile at fundraising@rainbowrosecenter.org.

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