



## *THE RAINBOW CONNECTION*

**May 1, 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.

### **A Message from the Board**

We are thrilled to announce the soft opening of the Rainbow Rose Center office!

The establishment of our physical presence in the community would not have been possible without your generous support at Give Local York last year. Your donations have helped us create a safe and welcoming space for York County's LGBTQIA+ Community, where they can come in and:

- connect with Resource Specialists to find the resources they need to thrive

from our Closet Program

- access books from our lending library and use our community computers
- receive education, advocacy, and allyship support

We are so excited to begin serving our community in a physical capacity! We hope you can come out

to see our new space at

**2930 Carol Rd.**

**East York, PA 17402**

during Give Local York on

**Friday, May 5 from 9:00 a.m. till 9:00 p.m.**



We would also like to take this opportunity to invite you to support us once again at this year's Give Local York event, which runs from 9:00 p.m. on May 4 till 9:00 p.m. on May 5.

This year, we hope to raise **\$20,000 in 24 hours**.

Your donations will help us continue to provide critical services and support to LGBTQIA+ individuals in our community, including resource connection, support groups, and educational programming.



Please visit our *Give Local York* page to learn more about the Rainbow Rose Center and our mission, and mark your calendars to donate during the 24 hour period. Together, with your generous support, we can create a more inclusive and welcoming community for all.

[GIVE LOCAL YORK DONATIONS PAGE](#)



The following information has been provided by Education Voters of Pennsylvania

On the May 16th primary election, voters in 499 school districts across Pennsylvania will determine which school board candidates will appear on the fall ballot. Candidates who advance to the fall election will, ultimately, be elected to positions where they will have enormous power to shape the priorities of our local public schools and influence the quality of education students in our communities receive.

In recent years, Pennsylvania has become a focal point for extremist politicians, including at the school district level. In some places extremists will be running for school board to promote a political agenda and impose their

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book bans, censorship of classroom discussions about race and gender identity, and policies discriminating against individual students because they identify as LGBTQ+.

Our communities depend on school boards to use tax dollars wisely and to ensure that our local schools will provide students with the opportunities that will allow them to thrive in school today and succeed in life after graduation.

**Are Extremists Coming for  
YOUR School Board?**

**What you need to know before the  
May 16th school board elections.**



[Click Here](#) to to learn more about the roles and responsibilities of school boards, how to talk about what is happening with extremists and school board elections this year with your friends and neighbors, and how you can be prepared to vote in the May 16th primary election.

### **Make a Plan to Vote on Tuesday, May 16**

- Learn who will be on your ballot by contacting your county board of elections to find a full list of candidates.
- Research the candidates on Facebook, Google them, or talk to people in your community so that you understand who they are and what they value.

**Show up and take a stand against extremism so that our communities—and our children—can come first.**

## **Programs Update**

The Rainbow Rose Center is excited to announce the launch of our new support group for LGBTQIA+ adults age 50+ called the Silver Triangle.

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## Group

Supporting You as You  
Age with Pride

The goal for the Silver Triangle support group is to promote social engagement and personal empowerment for our older LGBTQIA+ community members. This program is supported by the York County Community Foundation's Hahn Home Fund for Embracing Aging. We are very grateful to have received this grant to launch the support group, and we are excited to bring it to the community.

While we have finalized many aspects of the group's activities, the exact meeting time and first program date are to be determined based on community feedback. The group will meet 1x/month in a hybrid format: some people may attend the group in person, others may attend virtually. Support group activities will include things like book clubs, art activities, and group outings. We will also offer educational programs and workshops to enhance health and wellness, and to assist folks in navigating this next stage of their lives. If you are interested in joining our Silver Triangle group, please follow this link and sign up to receive meeting notifications about the group! We're excited to see you in the group soon!

[Silver Triangle Signup](#)

## Where to Find Us in May



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North Beaver Street, Downtown York  
York, PA 17401

On behalf of *Give Local*, join the Rainbow Rose Center at Downtown York's monthly First Friday in Historically Edgy Downtown York on May 5, 2023, presented by WellSpan Health. First Friday is a celebration of Downtown York, PA shops, restaurants, cultural venues and nightlife hot spots. From 5-9pm, downtown shops and restaurants host special events, offer refreshments and promotions, and sponsor live entertainment. Come visit the Rainbow Rose Center in person and support Give Local! For more information, visit: First Fridays York



### **Northeastern High School - Diversity Day!**

Friday, May 5 - 1:15 p.m. - 2:25 p.m.

300 High Street  
Manchester, PA 17345

The Rainbow Rose Center is excited to join Northeastern High School for their Diversity Day! If you're a student, or have a student at Northeastern High School, please stop by and visit us to learn more about our organization and how we support the community.

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## Breaking the Silence with the York Revolution

Friday, May 12 - Game Starts at 6:30 p.m.

WellSpan Park

5 Brooks Robinson Way

York, PA 17401

The York Revolution and the Breaking the Silence Committee are hosting this year's Mental Health Awareness Night at WellSpan Park - "Breaking the Silence presented by NAMI, Bartz Brigade and Building Bridges for Brianna". Come join the Rainbow Rose Center for this amazing event and enjoy the game! For tickets, visit: [York Revolution Tickets](#).



## Mental Health Awareness Day, A Day in the Park

Saturday, May 20 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

John Rudy Park

400 Mundis Race Road

York, PA 17406

May is Mental Health Awareness month, and the County Human Services Department is hosting a Day in the Park! Come join the Rainbow Rose Center for this free, fun for all

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available to purchase food and treats throughout the day.

**York County Town Hall**  
**Protecting LGBTQIA+ Youth**  
**PA Coalition to End LGBTQ+ Conversion Therapy**  
 Wednesday, May 31 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
 Marketview Arts  
 37 West Philadelphia Street  
 York, PA 17401

Pennsylvania's LGBTQIA+ youth deserve to be loved, celebrated, and accepted for who they are, no matter what. That's why The Trevor Project, PFLAG National, Rainbow Rose Center, and Keystone Equality, along with regional and statewide partners are hosting a Town Hall on the ongoing efforts to protect Pennsylvania's LGBTQIA+ youth from so-called "conversion therapy."

- Hear from local leaders on their projects and goals
- Meet other LGBTQIA+ activists, allies, and community leaders
- Get empowered on how to advocate on behalf of LGBTQIA+ youth

Light food and refreshments will be available before and after the event during networking opportunities.

## Save the Date

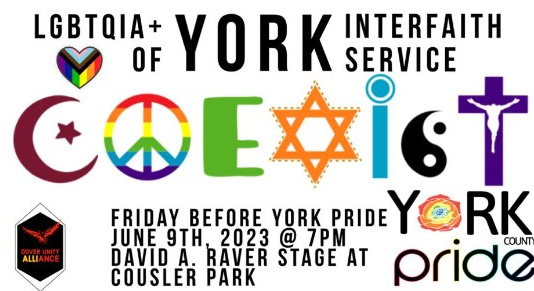


**First Friday!**  
 Friday, June 2 - 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
 Downtown York



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EVERYONE is invited to attend Downtown York's monthly First Friday in Historically Edgy Downtown York on June 2, 2023, presented by [WellSpan Health](#). First Friday is a celebration of Downtown York, PA shops, restaurants, cultural venues and nightlife hot spots. From 5-9pm, downtown shops and restaurants host special events, offer refreshments and promotions, and sponsor live entertainment. For more information, visit: [First Fridays York](#)



### **LGBTQIA+ of York Interfaith Service**

Friday, June 9 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Cousler Park

1060 Church Road

York, PA 17404

The Dover Unity Alliance would like to invite you to join them at David A. Raver Stage at Cousler Park the Friday before York County Pride as we gather together with one voice across faiths to celebrate Pride and Alliance with our members of the LGBTQIA+ community. Through this fellowship, we hope to gain new insight. For more information, visit: [York Interfaith Service](#).

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## York County Pride 2023

Saturday, June 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

York State Fair All Trans Memorial Hall

334 Carlisle Avenue

York, PA 17404

Join the Rainbow Rose Center for York County Pride 2023. Our June 10, 2023 event will take place at the **York State Fair All Trans Memorial Hall** from 10:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m. We are eagerly anticipating the ability to accommodate the needs of our diverse community by providing an accessible venue with ample parking that's safe from the elements (both excessive shine and dreary rain).

York County Pride provides an excellent opportunity to distribute information, sell products, and/or advertise services that support and are of interest to the LGBTQIA+ community. We welcome sponsors, organizations, businesses, vendors, and performers to apply on our new website! Registration closes May 12<sup>th</sup>! Food vendors are not being accepted at this time. For more information, visit: [York County Pride](#)

Questions about the event? Contact our Events Committee Chair, Christina Wingert, at [events@rainbowrosecenter.org](mailto:events@rainbowrosecenter.org).



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5 Brooks Robinson Way  
York, PA 17401

Join the Rainbow Rose Center for Pride Night at the ballpark! 50% off of all tickets purchased [HERE](#) will be donated to the Rainbow Rose Center!

*Hanover*  
**Juneteenth**  
**Jubilee**

**Hanover Juneteenth Jubilee**

Saturday, June 17 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Wirt Park

Hanover, PA 17331

Come out and celebrate Juneteenth with the Rainbow Rose Center! The Hanover Juneteenth Jubilee, hosted jointly by the Hanover Area Diversity Alliance and YWCA Hanover, celebrates the emancipation of the last enslaved people after the U.S. Civil War. It also celebrates the accomplishments of Black Americans, without whom the United States would never have existed. The Hanover Juneteenth Jubilee provides historical presentations as well as a variety of entertainment, food, and retail vendors. For more information, visit: [Hanover Juneteenth Jubilee](#).

**Other Events We're Excited About**



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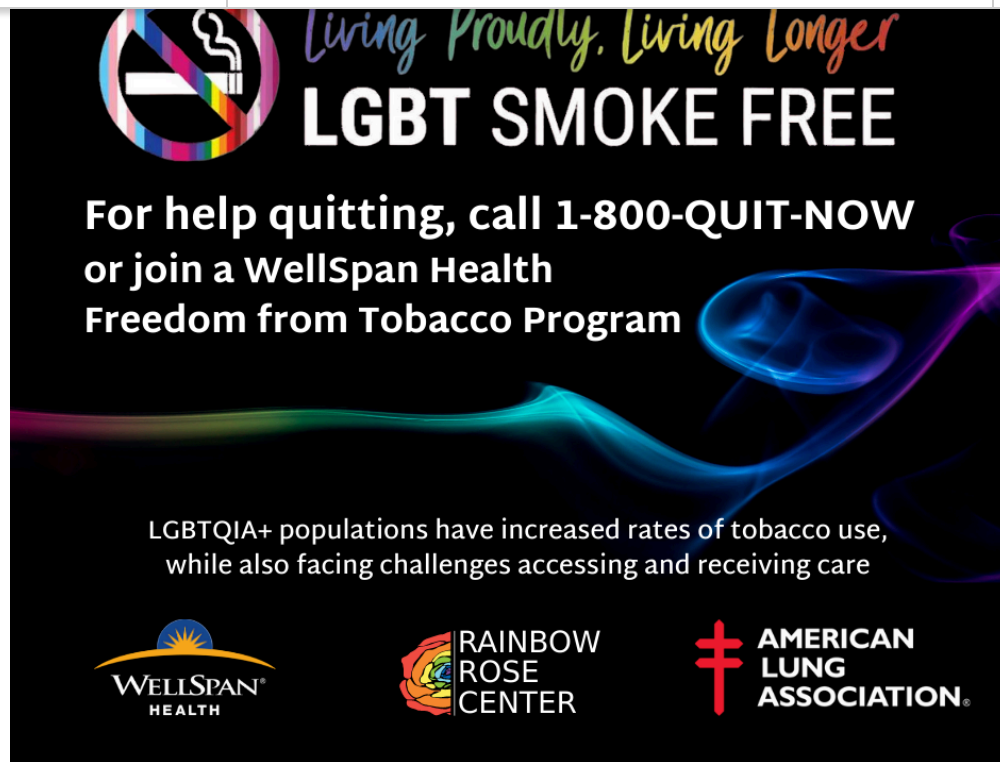
**Cloud Nine - An EDM Experience**  
Saturday, May 27 - 7:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.  
The Bond Event Venue  
134 E. King Street  
York, PA 17401

Get ready for an EDM experience like no other - featuring Gigi Marrero and Baltimore-based DJ Rhyatt. The Bond Event Venue will be transformed into **Cloud Nine** for an evening of music, dancing, drinks, live art, performances, and more! This is a 21+ event. For more info, visit: [Cloud Nine](#)

## You Can Quit

The Rainbow Rose Center is committed to promoting the health and wellbeing of our LGBTQIA+ community, and we want to see everyone living prouder and living longer. We are partnering with WellSpan Health to promote their Freedom from Smoking program to help our community quit. The next virtual class starts tomorrow, May 2, so register now!

[Freedom from Smoking Registration](#)




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*Living Proudly. Living Longer*

# LGBT SMOKE FREE

**For help quitting, call 1-800-QUIT-NOW  
or join a WellSpan Health  
Freedom from Tobacco Program**

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

## Interested in joining the RRC Board of Directors?

The Rainbow Rose Center is looking for a dedicated individual to join our board as the Social Media Manager within the Marketing and Communications team. The position will include managing our social media pages, so social media experience is a must! Join this amazing committee by contacting Deb Smith at [dsmith@rainbowrosecenter.org](mailto:dsmith@rainbowrosecenter.org).

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# START

## Specialized Treatment and Recovery Team

For urgent behavioral health needs

**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](http://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.*



## 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+ folx 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

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## **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 website at:

**DONATE**

## **Program Schedule**

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

### **Gender Diverse Support Group**

Occurs 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of Every Month from 8:30 p.m. -  
10:00 p.m.  
May 27, June 24

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

ON HIATUS - Until further notice, this group is on hold as we actively work on finding new folks to lead the meeting! If you are a QTPOC, please take a few moments to answer this brief revitalization survey:  
[QTPOC Support Group Survey](#)

### **Living Proudly HIV Support Group**

Occurs 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of Every Month from 6:00 p.m. -  
7:30 p.m.  
May 17, June 21

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Keep an eye on Facebook for additional upcoming events and activities!

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.

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

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## Thank You to Our Sponsors!

The Rainbow Rose Center is tremendously grateful to our sponsors. Their generous support provides the funds for 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.



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**ALLIES**



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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](mailto:fundraising@rainbowrosecenter.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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[York Jewish Community Center](#)  
[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](#)  
[YWCA York](#)  
[Dover United Church of Christ](#)  
[Kinetic Kreations](#)  
[Fresh Start Law](#)  
[Family First Health](#)  
[Thrivent](#)

### 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](mailto:fundraising@rainbowrosecenter.org).

### Rainbow Rose Center Affiliations



**KEYSTONE  
 BUSINESS  
 ALLIANCE**

Proud and Active Member

  
 CENTERLINK  
THE COMMUNITY OF LGBT CENTERS  
 Because Great LGBT Communities  
 Begin With Great LGBT Community Centers  
[www.lgbtcenters.org](http://www.lgbtcenters.org)

  
 Explore  
**YORK**

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

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The Rainbow Rose Center is honored to partner with WellSpan Health's Freedom from Tobacco program to help the LGBTQIA+ community quit. WellSpan Health offers 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](mailto: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](https://www.facebook.com/rainbowrosecenter).

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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  
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