



THE RAINBOW CONNECTION

March 1, 2022

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 all,

My name is Suzanne Pauley (She/Her/Hers), and I am the Resources Committee Chair and a Board Member at the Rainbow Rose Center. I have a master's degree in Social Work from Millersville University and am currently practicing as a master's level Social Worker in York County. I am a mother and wife. I enjoy spending time with family, friends, and in the community. I am pleased to advocate and be an ally for those who are oppressed and experiencing barriers to their rights.



I value the work of the Rainbow Rose Center. Our core values of Inclusion, Empathy, Community, Accountability, and Courage are morals I live by both in my personal and professional life. I chose to join the board not only because of the amazing work I saw unfolding by attending community events, but because I want to imprint these same moral values in my friends, family, and especially my children. It is important to me that my children grow up in an inclusive environment and give back to our York County community. I give back by attending community events, buying local, and being a part of the Rainbow Rose Center.

The Resource Committee vets resources where the LGBTQIA+ community can feel safe, embraced, and affirmed. If you are a resource provider or friendly business servicing the LGBTQIA+ community in and around York County, please contact: resources@rainbowrosecenter.org. The Resource Committee is searching for volunteers who have a passion for advocacy, research, networking, community, and resources to join. If you are interested in getting involved as a volunteer, whether as a Resource Specialist or for a specific event or program, please contact: volunteers@rainbowrosecenter.org. I am honored to be part of the board, chair the Resources Committee, and serve the York County community.

All my best,
Suzanne
Resources Committee Chair

Happy Social Work Month!

The theme for Social Work March 2022 is The Time is Right for Social Work. "The time is always right for social work. However, more people are entering the field because the life-affirming services that social workers provide are needed more than ever. This is especially true as our nation continues to grapple with the COVID-19 pandemic, systemic racism, economic inequality, global warming, and other crises. That is why the theme for Social Work Month 2022 is The Time is Right for Social Work." - <https://naswcanews.org/celebrate-social-work-month-march-2022/>



Image Provided by the National Association of Social Workers

Make Your Voice Heard!

RAISE YOUR VOICE FOR LGBTQ HEALTH

Participate in the 2022 Pennsylvania LGBTQ Health Needs Assessment

Every person who takes the survey will help LGBTQ organizations develop programs that best serve our community.

English: bit.ly/2022PANA
Español: bit.ly/2022PANA_S

Pennsylvania is home to thousands of LGBTQIA+ residents, and the state has become a leader in measuring disparities impacting our community's wellness. Since 2015, a growing network of LGBTQIA+ organizations have helped collect data about our community's health needs and barriers to care.

The Rainbow Rose Center is a part of a coalition of more than 30 LGBTQ organizations across the state collecting data for the 2022 Pennsylvania LGBTQ Health Needs Assessment. This information will be used to support new and existing community-based programs designed to close gaps in service and address the unique health needs of our population. Queer and Trans people of color are especially underrepresented, so please lend your voices.

The deadline to participate is March 21, 2022.

Take the time to raise your voice for LGBTQIA+ health and be entered in a raffle to win a gift card now at bit.ly/2022PANA. Puedes participar en español aquí: bit.ly/2022PANA_S.

A Well-Deserved Thank You!



We would like to thank JJ Sheffer, an amazing advocate and ally to the LGBTQIA+ and whole York Community! For those of you who don't know JJ, she is not only the Director of Community Programs at York County Economic Alliance, she is also the woman behind the book drives and reading sessions in response to central book ban last year!

JJ not only distributed thousands of donated books to the community and schools, she also set aside a stack of LGBTQIA+ themed pieces specifically for the Rainbow Rose Center's lending library! She is especially fond of "Julián Is a Mermaid" by Jessica Love, a book we were glad to feature as part of York County Pride in 2021, which JJ also sponsored!

Thank you JJ for your amazing allyship and for the new reads!

Advocacy, Social Justice, and Faith in Action

On Sunday, February 20th, members of the Rainbow Rose Center board joined almost a hundred allies from across Pennsylvania, along with over a half dozen Open & Affirming ministers, to support the YWCA Hanover Drag Queen Story Hour. Miss Amie Vanité, a drag queen from Reading, read books including "Pink is for Boys," by Robb Pearlman, and "Be Who You Are," by New York Times Bestselling Author Todd Parr to approximately 50 children and parents.

Outside, crowds of LGBTQIA+ folks and allies formed a Wall of Love with the Silent Witnesses to stand against the bigotry across the street. A few dozen protestors were hardly heard over the Pride-themed music and affirmation coming from the YWCA's side.



Thank you to Jody Shaffer and Deb Smith of the YWCA Hanover, Rev. Eva O'Diam of the Dover UCC, Rev.

Witnesses, Matthew Jackson of THE VALLEY: For Good Change In The 717, Naomi Asper of Pride Hanover, and the many parents, young people, ministers, and allies who came out to support this event!

Request for Facebook/Google Reviews



Your help is requested!

If you believe the work the Rainbow Rose Center is doing is helping you, someone you know, or just the community in general, your review can help build confidence in the work we're doing. We thank you for your consideration and look forward to continuing benefit the LGBTQIA+ York County Community! You can leave a Google review by clicking this link: https://g.page/r/CR37_dQIKXKdEAg/review and on Facebook by clicking the "Share Feedback" button at this link: <https://www.facebook.com/rainbowrosecenter/reviews>. Thank you for considering leaving us a review!

Save the Dates!

We encourage you to keep these upcoming events in mind!



2022 Keystone Conference

The Rainbow Rose Center is excited to participate in the Keystone Conference for the very first time!

This "Celebration of Gender Diversity" is the 12th annual conference hosted by TransCentralPA in Pennsylvania's capital city of Harrisburg! Come out for an informative, inspirational, and joyous time among members and supporters of the Transgender community at the lovely Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel.

We'll be there, both at our informational table and at the Clothing Exchange. We hope to see you there too between March 23rd and the 27th!

Find out more at: <https://www.keystone-conference.org/>

If you need financial assistance to attend, please reach out to Tesla at ttaliaferro@rainbowrosecenter.org to find out how to apply!

Blue Sky Tavern Meet & Greet



The Rainbow Rose Center's All Adult Identities Group will be teaming up with York Bears and Friends this month!

On March 26th, we will be getting together for the Welcome Dinner and Social Meet & Greet event at the Blue Sky Tavern at 6:00 p.m. Raffle tickets will go on sale at 8:00 p.m., with the winners announced at 10:00 p.m. Please come out and support the gay community of York County and the surrounding areas. All LGBTQIA+ people are welcome and supported.

Find out more at: <https://www.facebook.com/events/916745862344943>

Give Local York 2022



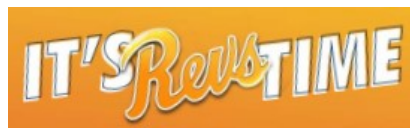
Give Local York is back on Friday, May 6, 2022!

Last year, you helped the Rainbow Rose Center raise over \$10,000 in our first ever Give Local York! Donations from last year have helped provide supplies for our Clothing Closet, equipment to broadcast virtual events, and is helping to seed our big goal... getting a physical office!

Please mark your calendars for this year's event to help us raise the funds to one again have a space where people can come in-person for programming, information, and a place to just be.

Visit us at www.facebook.com/rainbowrosecenter for more updates!

Pride at the Ballpark



Join us on Friday, June 3rd for Pride at the Ballpark!

Order your tickets today by visiting <https://www.yorkrevolution.com/groups-hospitality/Group-theme-nights/>

$\frac{1}{2}$ of the ticket sales support the Rainbow Rose Center!

Entertainment on the plaza from 5:30 p.m. until 6:15 p.m.

Pre-game parade for all guests at 6:00 p.m. and a pre-game awards ceremony at 6:15 p.m.

Pride merchandise & drink specials

Game-worn Pride jersey auction presented by JLS Automation

York County Pride



SAVE THE DATE for York County PRIDE - Saturday, June 11, 2022
Cousler Park in Manchester Twp.
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Performances, Vendors, & Fun for ALL!

Paid Research Opportunity!



If you are between the ages of 13-18, identify outside of the gender binary, and study French or Spanish in a U.S. high school, you may be eligible to participate in a compensated research project about gender and language learning. Click here for more info: <http://www.tinyurl.com/nbla2022>.

Please share to spread the word!

Brought to you by:





i-ron-ic

A Round of Applause for I-Ron-Ic!

We'd like to take a moment to thank David Smith and Steve Billet, the co-owners of the lovely I-Ron-Ic Coffee Shop & Art Boutique in Downtown York for joining the Rainbow Rose Center's Preferred Partnership Program! These gents are absolutely fantastic, and they have done an outstanding job of creating a safe space for the LGBTQIA+ community. They have continually shown support for the Rainbow Rose Center since we first started, and we're glad we can now recognize them as an official Preferred Partner!

They serve up our local community with espresso drinks, food, and help support local artists. Their unique cafe space has both indoor and outdoor dining that creates a safe space for all. We especially love their "Pay it Forward" Program that helps support the community and those that cannot afford a meal or a cup of coffee.

Learn more about this amazing location at i-ron-ic.com or on Facebook or Instagram @Ironicyork, or better yet, just stop on it at 256 W Philadelphia Street York Pa 17401!

There are Plenty of Volunteer Opportunities!

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+ folk and allies! We need help with day to day activities, and we're also looking for committee members to directly influence the direction of the organization. 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 website at <https://www.rainbowrosecenter.org/donations/>

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT!

The York Transgender, Queer and Trans People of Color (QTPOC), and Living Proudly HIV Support Groups are now meeting regularly. See the schedule below for dates and times!

Check the [Rainbow Rose Center Website](#) or visit us on [Facebook](#) for updates! We hope to see you there!

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[RSS](#)**York Transgender Support Group**Occurs 4th Saturday of Every Month from 8:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.March 26thApril 23rd**Queer and Trans People of Color (QTPOC) Support Group**Occurs 2nd Sunday of Every Month from 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.March 13thApril 10th**Living Proudly HIV Support Group**Occurs 2nd Wednesday of Every Month from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.March 16thApril 13th

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



Visit the [Rainbow Rose Center website](#) 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](#)

[Rainbow Rose Center Programs & Services Pamphlet](#)



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.



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



Proud and Active Member



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

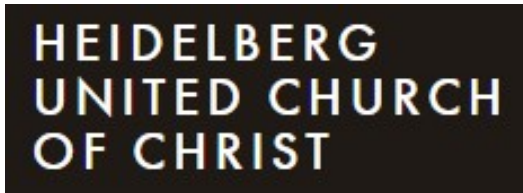
www.lgbtcenters.org

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



Current Preferred Partners include:



Restaurant & Bar

Restaurant • Wine Bar • Cocktails • Beer

**eliminating racism
empowering women**
ywca
York

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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