



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.

August 1, 2024

Rainbow Rose Center Leadership Updates

Four years ago, I shared a vision with a few passionate community members to create a resource center for York County's LGBTQIA+ Community. It became my life's mission and, at times, my full-time (unpaid) job to get the Rainbow Rose Center off the ground and operational. I couldn't have done it without the amazing co-founders - Maria Gable, Chris Stetler, and Kevin Forry - and our original volunteer board members.

Starting a nonprofit in the midst of a global pandemic was no small feat, and the Rainbow Rose Center wouldn't have come this far without the awesome support of our community. Over the years, we've helped hundreds of community members; grown tremendously in our services, programs; expanded our York County Pride event; and we even won a few awards.

Now, the Rainbow Rose Center reaches a new milestone - under new leadership and without any of the founders, the Rainbow Rose Center will soon be introducing new leadership in the role of the Executive Director.

My dream of creating a center for the community has been achieved, and so my time leading the organization is at its end. It is my fullest hope that, under the new board leadership of President Christina Wingert, Vice President Jennifer Page-Wise and the rest of the Executive Committee, with the help of the full volunteer Board of Directors, the organization will continue to grow and help York County's LGBTQIA+ Community thrive.

I promise, this isn't goodbye. You will still see me around, sometimes, at Rainbow Rose Center events and programs, and I will advise the Board and staff when requested. I will, of course, continue to support the organization in the means and capacity that I can - because I truly believe in the mission. I hope you do too, and that you will continue to volunteer, support, and donate to this wonderful and impactful organization.

Yours in Service and in Pride,

Tesla Nicole Taliaferro

Immediate Past President and Co-Founder

Dear Community Members,

It is with great honor and pleasure that I now come to you as Board President for the Rainbow Rose Center. It has been an absolute joy these past two years to work first as your Events Chair and then as your Vice President. I am excited to see how this next chapter of the Rainbow Rose Center evolves and am beyond grateful to be a part of it! I am also excited for our Programs Chair, Jennifer Page-Wise, to join our Executive Committee as our new Vice President. Please know my door, so to speak, is always open and look forward to working for and with you!

Lots of Love,

Christina Wingert

Your Rainbow Rose Center President



Community News

Where We'll be



Hanover's Gayest Happy Hour

Friday, August 2 | 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

McAllister's on York

11 York St.

Hanover, PA

Join the Rainbow Rose Center for Hanover's biggest Gay Happy Hour every 1st Friday from 4-6pm For more information, visit: [Hanover's Gayest Happy Hour](#)

Justice Jam of the Valley

Saturday, August 3 | 11:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of York

925 S. George St.

York, PA

The Rainbow Rose Center, along with the City of York, City of York Human Relations Commission and PFLAG York, will be honored as the recipient of the Moral Courage in Public Policy Award, for our role in working to get passed York City's ban on conversion therapy.

**We're being honored
with an award!**



Come by and celebrate
this honor with us and
our community!

JUSTICE JAM of THE VALLEY
Saturday, August 3
11:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of York



**RAINBOW
ROSE
CENTER**



National Night Out Block Party

Tuesday, August 6 | 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Union Lutheran Church

408 W. Market St.

York, PA

Don't miss one of the biggest parties of the year as Union celebrates National Night Out.

This is a great evening of fun with friends from Union and our community. There will be food, entertainment, activities, games, and community resources for all ages and more! We close down the street, serve a FREE meal, and then turn up the music! Make sure to save the date and plan to attend the fun.

For more information, visit: [National Night Out Block Party](#)

York's Gayest Happy Hour

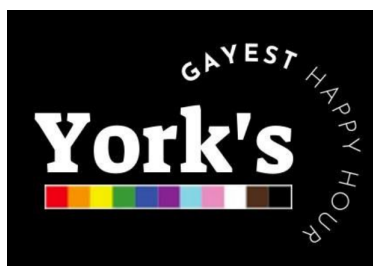
Thursday, August 8 | 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Mudhook Brewing Company

34 N. Cherry Ln.

York, PA

Join the Rainbow Rose Center for York's Gayest Happy Hour. For more information, visit: [York's Gayest Happy Hour](#)





Queer Moon Cabaret
Saturday, August 24 | 6:30 p.m.
The Belmont Theater
27 S. Belmont St.
York, PA

The Queer Moon Cabaret at the Belmont Theater is a fundraising night of queer bliss to celebrate LGBTQIA+ magic and pollinate queer connections! It's a one-night-only event for the LGBTQIA+ community, friends, and allies ages 12 and up and the proceeds support The LGBTour and The Belmont Theatre. [Click here to buy your tickets!](#)

Organizational Announcements!



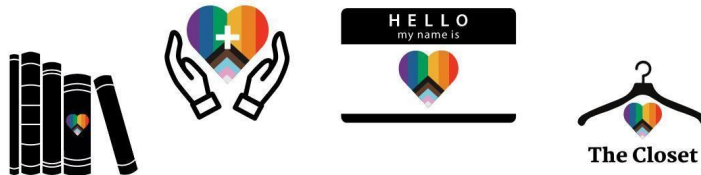
Schedule a time to stop by our office!

Resource Connection

Gender-Affirming Closet

Name Change Help

Lending Library



office hours by appointment only

Rainbow Rose Center Office Hours Update

We're shifting to office hours by appointment only! Do you need help changing your name, want to browse our gender affirming closet or lending library, or need help navigating resources? We're here to help.

Check out rainbowrosecenter.org or visit the link in our bio to learn more, or email info@rainbowrosecenter.org.

Committee and Board Opportunities!

The Rainbow Rose Center is looking for Board and committee members for the following committees:

Programs Committee - The Programs Committee is looking for new committee members and co-moderators for several of our support groups.

If you are interested in joining our Programs Committee or co-moderating one of our support groups, please contact Jennifer PageWise at jpagewise@rainbowrosecenter.org

Fundraising Committee - The Fundraising Committee is looking for new committee members to help raise money for the RRC, create new fundraising ideas, make introductions to prospective financial supporters, and tell your story to potential sponsors.

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

Marketing and Communications (M&C) Committee Chair - The M&C Chair, as a volunteer board member of the RRC, is responsible for developing a marketing plan and coordinating our marketing and publicity efforts. These activities include establishing and maintaining a wide media presence, including on professional networking sites to build a presence in the business community as well as social media for our consumer community. The M&C Chair might also help the board in developing press releases, and will coordinate marketing activities and website maintenance.

For more information, contact info@rainbowrosecenter.org

Health Note

The Rainbow Rose Center's monthly Health Note spotlights a healthy living topic of importance to the LGBTQIA+ community.

August is National Immunization Month. Learn more about vaccines in this month's Health Note by clicking on the button below!

[Health Note](#)

Program Schedule

The Rainbow Rose Center offers several programs, meetings, and support groups both virtually and in person. Safety is our utmost priority for all virtual support group meetings, so we do not publish meeting link details publicly.

To check out the current dates and times of our meeting offerings, click on the "View Our Calendar" button below.

If you have questions, please contact Jennifer PageWise at jpagewise@rainbowrosecenter.org.

[View Our Calendar](#)

Around York

Take the 2024 PA LGBTQ Health Needs Assessment Survey!

Pennsylvania
LGBTQ+
Health Needs
Assessment

**RAISE YOUR VOICE
FOR LGBTQ+ HEALTH**

Participate in the 2024 assessment. Every person who takes the survey will help LGBTQ+ organizations develop programs that best serve our community.

English: bit.ly/2024lgbtq Español: bit.ly/2024lgbtq_s

Do you want to make your voice heard AND have the chance to win a \$50 gift card? Fill out the 2024 PA LGBTQ+ Health Needs Assessment survey!

Funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Pennsylvania LGBTQ Health Needs Assessment is a biannual survey conducted to evaluate health needs, health disparities, and barriers to care impacting LGBTQ+ Pennsylvanians. The PA LGBTQ Health Needs Assessment collects data on healthcare experiences, nutrition, exercise, tobacco use, drug and alcohol use, sexual health, mental health, and food and housing security.

The Rainbow Rose Center has been proudly partnering with the Bradbury-Sullivan Center and the Department of Health since 2020 on this biannual project.

[Take the Survey Here](#)

Volunteers Opportunity to Support LGBTQ Refugee Neighbors Through CWS Lancaster



Volunteer to support LGBTQ new refugee neighbors through CWS Lancaster! Many people who identify as LGBTQ have been forced to flee their home country because of who they are. Be a part of making them feel

safe and accepted in their new home by volunteering! This can include being a first friend who supports a new neighbor in navigating their new home, attending LGBTQ support groups, and introducing them to open and affirming places around York.

If you are interested in learning more, please email Chloe Corkery, Community Engagement Facilitator at handhandlanc@cwsglobal.org.



Quitting is an Act of Self-Love.

OUTLAST TOBACCO

Sign up now to request
a FREE 2-week supply of
nicotine replacement therapy!



SCAN ME TO
SIGN UP!

The National LGBTQI+ Cancer Network wants to help you and your loved ones start their next quit attempt today -- for FREE! They're giving out a FREE 2-week supply of nicotine replacement therapy products.

You'll also get their new LGBTQI+ tobacco cessation trifold, which shares how quitting tobacco is an act of both loving yourself and your community.

Every quit attempt matters! Help imagine a tobacco-free future by sharing this with your colleagues, family, and friends.

For more information, email Bryce (he/him) at bryce@cancer-network.org.

[Read More Community News Here](#)

Preferred Partner Program

The Rainbow Rose Center Preferred Partner Program is designed to connect our supporters, allies, and the York LGBTQIA+ community with local, like minded consumer businesses and organizations. These dedicated and

Preferred Partners really stand behind their pledge to support the LGBTQIA+ community
Look for this decal at businesses throughout York County to support and to feel safe at!"



[Learn More Information About Our Preferred Partner Program](#)

2024 Sponsors

The Rainbow Rose Center is tremendously grateful to our sponsors. We're excited to welcome back [WellSpan Health](#) as an Organizational Sponsor - they truly represent what it means to be an Advocate for York County's LGBTQIA+ Community!



WellSpan Health's mission is to provide exceptional care for all and they strive to understand and respect the differences of everyone in their care. All of WellSpan's team members own a part in creating an environment where colleagues and patients feel safe, respected, and valued.

[Learn More About Who Supports Us](#)

We will continue to welcome additional 2024 sponsors throughout the year. Their support ensures that the Rainbow Rose Center has the funds for the resources, services, and programs the York County LGBTQIA+ community needs and deserves.

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