

LGBTQ+ Community Resources

Local (MA) Resources

- **ACLU Massachusetts** (American Civil Liberties Union) is one of the nation's foremost defenders of civil liberties and civil rights. Its mission is to defend and promote the fundamental principles and values embodied in the Bill of Rights, the U.S. Constitution, and the New York Constitution. www.aclum.org and www.aclum.org/en/issues/lgbtq-rights
- **Attorney General's Office Hate Crimes Report Hotline** Toll Free: 1-800-994-3228
- **BAGLY** (Boston Alliance of LGBTQ Youth) is a youth-led, adult-supported social support org committed to social justice, and creating, sustaining and advocating for programs, policies and services for the LGBTQ+ youth community. www.bagly.org
 - There are multiple AGLY programs throughout the state, to find one closest to you visit: www.bagly.org/the-agly-network
- **Berkshire Stonewall Community Coalition** supports the well-being of LGBTQ people in the Berkshires. www.berkshirstonewall.org
- **Boston Children's Hospital - Gender Multispecialty Services** (GeMS) is committed to providing the highest level of individualized, safe, and affirmative care to gender-diverse and transgender individuals and their families for ages 3-25. www.childrenshospital.org/centers-and-services/programs/f-n/gender-multispecialty-service
- **Boston GLASS** provides a continuum of services to LGBTQ+ youth of color and their allies, as well as youth living with HIV in the Greater Boston and Greater Framingham areas. For youth ages 13-19, drop-in and mentee ages 13-25. <https://jri.org/services/health-and-housing/health/boston-glass>
- **Brockton LGBTQ Support** (BrAGLY) is a program of Health Imperatives that provides crisis counseling and advocacy services for LGBTQ youth who have experienced trauma, including sexual or relationship violence, bullying, or harassment. There is also a weekly support group for Brockton area youth. <https://healthimperatives.org/lgbtq-support-bragly>
- **Cambridge LGBTQ+ Commission** advocates for a culture of respect and to monitor progress toward equality of all persons with regard to sexual orientation and gender identity. It also promotes policies and practices that have a positive effect on the health, welfare and safety of persons in Cambridge. www.cambridgema.gov/Departments/lgbtqpluscommission
- **Cape & Islands Gay & Straight Youth Alliance** (CIGSYA) is a place where young people (ages 22 and under) can enjoy meetings, drop in times and special events where there is camaraderie and support, in a peer lead, adult advised environment, free from judgment based on inherent differences. www.cigsya.org
- **Community Action of the Pioneer Valley** has comprehensive programming and services aimed at supporting every person, from youth to elders. They offer youth development programs focus on leadership development, community service, employment readiness, and diversity support (including LGBTQ specific support groups). www.communityaction.us
- **Community Legal Aid** provides free civil legal services to low-income and elderly residents of central and western Massachusetts. They also provide free civil legal assistance to victims of crime and survivors of homicide victims. www.communitylegal.org
- **Elizabeth Freeman Center** (LGBTQ Access Project) provides hope, help, and healing for LGBTQ people surviving domestic and sexual violence in Berkshire County and the surrounding areas. 24/7 toll-free Hotline – 1 (866) 401-2425 www.elizabethfreemancenter.org/learn-more/rainbow
- **Fenway Health** is a statewide resource providing primary care, behavioral health, education and prevention resources, and much more to the LGBTQ+ community. There also have a leading research institute. www.fenwayhealth.org
- **GLSEN Massachusetts** strives to assure that each member of every school community is valued and respected regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression. www.glsen.org/chapters/massachusetts
- **Hispanic Black Gay Coalition Boston** (HBGC) is one of few nonprofit organizations in Boston dedicated to the unique and complex needs of the Black, Hispanic and Latin@ LGBTQ community. Their work is to inspire and empower Latin@, Hispanic and Black LGBTQ individuals to improve their livelihood through activism, education, community outreach, and counseling. www.hbgc-boston.org
- **House of Colors** (program of Enlace de Familias) is a youth directed resource center for LGBTQ youth and their allies that fosters a safe and welcoming environment by promoting community and offering resources that meet the needs of its members www.facebook.com/HouseOfColorsHolyoke
- **Lanewood** is a residence at Glenhaven Academy is uniquely purposed as the only program in the United States that provides comprehensive clinical, educational, vocational, and medical services for LGBTQI, and allied youth. <https://jri.org/services/educational-and-residential/residential/lanewood>

For additional info, please feel free to contact James Shultis, Educator & Consultant
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- **Live Out Loud Youth Project** (Program of Affirmative Counseling in Pittsfield) Youth-led, adult-supported social group where LGBTQ youth 13-17 can meet in a safe, fun environment. <http://affirmativecounseling.net/liveoutloudyouthgroup.html>
- **LGBT Asylum Task Force** is a ministry of Hadwen Park Church and a community-based organization dedicated to supporting and empowering LGBTQI individuals who are seeking asylum in the United States. www.lgbtasylum.org
- **Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination** (MCAD) their mission is to eradicate discrimination in MA by investigating and prosecuting Complaints of Discrimination that occur in Employment, Housing, Public Places, Access to Education, Lending, and Credit. We also offer training to help prevent discrimination from occurring. www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-commission-against-discrimination
- **Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth** is an independent state agency that helps all youth thrive. Also home to the Safe Schools Program which provides free trainings throughout the state. www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-commission-on-lgbtq-youth
- **MassEquality** is a Boston-based organization that seeks to promote LGBTQ rights in the U.S. Commonwealth of Massachusetts. www.massequality.org
- **Mass Transgender Political Coalition** (MTPC) is an advocacy, education, and community-building organization that works to end discrimination on the basis of gender identity and expression. This includes working towards the empowerment of all persons who have been, are being, or might be deprived of equal rights and/or fair treatment because of their gender expression or identity. <https://www.masstpc.org/>
- **North Shore Alliance for LGBTQ Youth** (NAGLY) is a place where youth can discuss issues of importance to them, to explore their identities, to build self-awareness, and to learn skills for being safe and healthy. www.nagly.org
- **New Bedford Alliance of LGBTQ Youth** (NB-AGLY) through A Perfect Place is a community based LGBTQ youth organization, located in New Bedford, MA. Youth between the ages of 14-24 come together to support each other and talk about issues affecting LGBTQ youth and their allies. There is a drop-in every Thursday evening from 5-7. <http://aperfectplace.org/>
- **Out MetroWest** builds communities where LGBTQ+ youth thrive. Located in Wellesley, serves surrounding areas. www.outmetrowest.org
- **Out Now** is a youth org in Springfield, MA dedicated to supporting the agency of queer families. www.outnowyouth.org
- **Rainbow Elders** offers opportunities and information to build connections and find resources to LGBTQIA+ elders, as well as their allies, and educational outreach to agencies, businesses, and the community at large. Rainbow Elders helps people build relationships, give and gain support, grow in knowledge and cultural competence, and advocate for human rights so that everyone can live and age with dignity. <https://lifepathma.org/rainbowelders>
- **Rainbow Seniors of Berkshire County** is a program serving lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender seniors and their allies who live in the Berkshires, ages 50+. Adults of all generations are welcome to attend. <https://rainbowseniors.org/>
- **Rainbow Supper Club** is a program of WestMass ElderCare and the Holyoke Council on Aging. Geared towards LGBTQ seniors and their loved ones, partners, and allies. Dinners are held the first Wednesday of every month. www.wmeldercare.org
- **Safe Homes** is the only program in Central MA providing specialized services to LGBTQ youth. www.safehomes.org
- **Safe Passage** provides emergency shelter in a confidential location, for the safety of our guests. Community services include counseling, advocacy, peer support, and a specialized LGBTQ support team. www.safepass.org
- **Safe Spaces** is a program that consists of community-based organizations currently working with LGBTQ youth, to provide services that are trauma-informed, founded in Positive Youth Development, and are culturally appropriate and specific to LGBTQ youth. <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/safe-spaces-for-lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender-queerquestioning-lgbtq>
- **Supporters of Worcester Area GLBTQ Youth** (SWAGLY) is a social support group through the organization AIDS Project Worcester for LGBTQIA+ youth and allies who are 22 years old and under. www.aidsprojectworchester.org/swagly
- **Tapestry Health** provides comprehensive community-based healthcare to adults and teens, including services to the LGBTQ+ community like sexual health care, STD/HepC/HIV testing, as well as education and referrals for PrEP. www.tapestryhealth.org
- **Trans Club of New England** (TCNE) is a Boston area transgender support organization for the transgender community. Our future name reflects our expanding mission to serve transgender individuals across the gender spectrum. www.tcne.org
- **Youth on Fire** (YOF) is a program of AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts, is a drop-in center for homeless and street-involved youth, ages 14-24, located in Harvard Square, Cambridge. <https://aac.org/youth-on-fire>

For additional info, please feel free to contact James Shultis, Educator & Consultant, james@jamesshultis.com

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Community Resources Continued

Hotlines

- **The Trevor Project** provides a national 24hr toll-free suicide prevention hotline aimed at LGBT and questioning youth and offers an educational package and other resources to tolerance for LGBT youth in school and institutional settings. Toll Free: 866-4U-TREVOR www.thetrevorproject.org
- **Trans Lifeline** is a non-profit dedicated to the well-being of transgender people. We run a hotline staffed by transgender people for transgender people. Toll Free: 877-565-8860 www.translifeline.org
- **The GLBT National Help Center** provides nationwide toll-free peer counseling, information and referrals to the LGBT community. Toll Free: 888-843-4564 www.glbthotline.org
- **National Runaway Switchboard** provides crisis intervention and local and national referrals to youth and their families, training materials and resources for communities and schools and is the federally designated national communication system for runaway and homeless youth. Hotline: 800-621-4000 www.nrscrisisline.org

National Resources

- **The LGBTQ Task Force** is the country's oldest national LGBTQ advocacy group. www.thetaskforce.org
- **PFLAG** For parents, families, and friends of people who are transgender and gender expansive, this national organization provides support, advocacy, and resources to family and friends of LGBTQ individuals. www.pflag.org
- **GLSEN** strives to assure that each member of every school community is valued and respected regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression. www.glsen.org
- **InterACT Youth** is a national project led by young people with DSD/intersex traits, ages 14-25. www.interactadvocates.org
- **COLAGE** is a national movement of children, youth, and adults with one or more LGBTQ parent/s. Working toward social justice through youth empowerment, leadership development, education, and advocacy. www.colage.org/
- **The Network La Red** is a survivor-led social justice org working to end partner abuse in LGBTQ, poly, & SM communities. www.tnlr.org
- **GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD)** Founded in 1978, GLAD works nationally to create a just society free of discrimination based on sexual orientation, HIV status, and gender identity and expression. www.glad.org
- **Lambda Legal** is the largest legal organization in the United States. Since 1973, the staff has worked to secure civil rights for gays, lesbians and persons with HIV via education, public policy work and litigation. www.lambdalegal.org
- **Anti-Violence Project** is an anti-LGBTQIA violence organization doing national work. www.avp.org
- **Human Rights Campaign** is America's largest civil rights organization working to achieve LGBTQ equality. www.hrc.org

Transgender Youth Specific Resources

- **Gender Spectrum** offers resources to empower your relationships, work, and interactions with youth and children. From how-to guides, to respected research, to sample training materials, we provide you with the tools necessary to create gender inclusive environments in your homes, offices, and communities. www.genderspectrum.org
- **Trans Student Educational Resources** is a youth-led organization dedicated to transforming the educational environment for trans and gender nonconforming students through advocacy and empowerment. They are the creators of the Gender Unicorn among many other resource to use. www.transstudent.org
- **TransYouth Family Allies** is a resource for any person who identifies as an ally to a transgender, gender variant young person. Online resources available for family members, healthcare providers, educators, and more. www.imatyfa.org
- **Trans Youth Equality Foundation** provides education, advocacy, and support for transgender youth (ages 2-18), and their families. Our mission is to share information about the unique needs of this community, partnering with families, educators, and service providers to help foster a healthy, caring, and safe environment for all. www.transyouthequality.org
- **Some Recommended Books:**
 - [Beyond Magenta: Transgender Teens Speak Out](#) edited by Susan Kuklin
 - [The Transgender Teen](#) and [The Transgender Child](#) by Stephanie A. Brill
 - [Being Jazz: My Life as a \(Transgender\) Teen](#) by Jazz Jennings
 - [Some Assembly Required](#) by Arin Andrews

Community Resources Continued

Transgender Specific Resources

- **Center of Excellence for Transgender Health** works to increase access to comprehensive, effective, and affirming healthcare services for trans communities through protocols, research, and trainings. www.transhealth.ucsf.edu
- **World Professional Association for Transgender Health** publishes the Standards of Care and Ethical Guidelines for caring for transgender individuals as well as opportunities for professionals to expand their learning. www.wpath.org
- **National Center for Transgender Equality** has a wealth of information regarding transgender rights including employment, housing, health care, airport, security, schools, public accommodations, social security, medicare and more. There are also guides on health care and name and gender change information. www.transequality.org
- **Transgender Law Center** works to change law, policy, and attitudes so that all people can live safely, authentically, and free from discrimination regardless of their gender identity or expression. They envision a future where gender self-determination and authentic expression are seen as basic rights and matters of common human dignity. www.transgenderlawcenter.org
- **Transgender Law & Policy Institute** is dedicated to engaging in effective advocacy for transgender people in our society. Bringing together experts to work on law and policy initiatives designed to advance transgender equality. Website has info and resources on legislation, case law, employer and college policies, and more. www.transgenderlaw.org
- **Trans Legal Services Network** representing over 80 organizations across the country dedicated to providing name and gender change services or other legal services for trans people in their areas. www.transequality.org
- **Trans Health** is an online magazine supporting the health needs of transgender people. www.trans-health.com
- **GenderTalk** is an activist radio channel featuring fascinating archives, discussing philosophy, strategy, and results in the ongoing effort to redefine cultural gender boundaries. Based in Boston and broadcast to the world. www.gendertalk.com
- **APICHA** is a holistic health support for Asian Pacific Islander Queer/Trans people. www.apicha.org
- **Jim Collins Foundation** funds gender-affirming surgeries for those who cannot afford it. www.jimcollinsfoundation.org
- **GenderConfirmation.com** is a website with resources about top surgery for FTM and MTF folks with information about risks, answers for common concerns and information about the surgery technique. www.genderconfirmation.com
- **Some Recommended Books:**
 - Trans Bodies, Trans Selves: A Resource for the Transgender Community edited by Laura Erickson-Schroth
 - My Gender Workbook: How to Become a Real Man, a Real Woman, the Real You, or Something Else Entirely by Kate Bornstein
 - Redefining Realness: My Path to Womanhood, Identity, Love, & So Much More by Janet Mock
 - Transgender Warriors: The Making of History from Joan of Arc to Dennis Rodman by Leslie Feinberg
 - Whipping Girl: A Transsexual Woman on Sexism and the Scapegoating of Femininity by Julia Serano

Substance Use / Addiction Resources

- **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)** provides leading resources on substance use and behavioral health. There are resources, a hotline, research, grants, and much more. www.samhsa.gov
- **Addiction Centers** helps individuals find treatment supports throughout the country. There are also numerous resources available on their site regarding LGBTQ individuals and addiction. www.addictioncenter.com/addiction/lgbtq
- **Pride Institute** is the nation's first and leading provider of residential and outpatient treatment programs devoted to treating addiction and the mental health needs of the LGBTQ community. www.pride-institute.com/lgbtq-recovery
- **National LGBT Health Education Center** provides educational programs, resources, and consultation to health care organizations with the goal of optimizing quality, cost-effective health care for LGBT people. www.lgbthealtheducation.org
- **Recovery Village** is a network of full treatment recovery programs. They also host a variety of online resources including support for LGBTQ people seeking recovery. www.therecoveryvillage.com/resources/lgbtq/#gref
- **Some Recommended Readings (Articles):**
 - LGBTQ Drug Addiction: The Solution Doesn't Fit the Situation www.huffpost.com/entry/lgbtq-drug-addiction-the_b_7926076
 - LGBTQ Addiction Is Not the Same as Straight Addiction www.advocate.com/commentary/2015/9/28/lgbt-addiction-not-same-straight-addiction
 - Substance Use Among LGBTQ: Q&A with a research scientist www.hazeldenbettyford.org/lgbtq

Community Resources Continued

Disability Resources

- **Axis Dance** is one of the world's most acclaimed and innovative ensembles of performers with and without disabilities. Through dance, AXIS breaks walls down between disability and dance. www.axisdance.org
- **Blind LGBT Pride** has a mission to "to promote the awareness, inclusion, and well-being of blind and vision impaired LGBT people through education, advocacy, and peer-support." www.blindlgbtpride.org
- **Deaf Queer** is a national nonprofit resource and information center for, by and about the Deaf Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Transsexual, Intersex and Questioning communities. www.deafqueer.org
- **Leaving Evidence** is a blog detailing Mia Mingus' experiences as a self-identified queer, physically disabled Korean woman transracial and transnational adoptee who is also a writer, community educator, and organizer working for disability justice and transformative responses to child sexual abuse. www.leavingevidence.wordpress.com
- **Passing Twice** is an informal network of LGBTQ stutterers and their friends. www.facebook.com/passingtwicestuttering
- **Queerability** seeks to increase visibility of LGBTQ disabled people by honoring the intersection of the disability and LGBTQ experience. www.queerability.tumblr.com
- **Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf** encourages and promote the educational, economical, and social welfare; to foster fellowship; to defend our rights; and advance our interests as Deaf LGBTQ citizens concerning social justice. www.deafrad.org
- **RespectAbility** is an organization led by people with disabilities and their allies to fight stigmas and advances opportunities so that people with disabilities can fully participate in all aspects of community. www.respectability.org
- **Sins Invalid** is a disability justice based performance project that incubates and celebrates artists with disabilities, centralizing artists of color & LGBTQ / gender-variant artists as communities who have been historically marginalized. www.sinsinvalid.org
- **Some Recommended Books:**
 - Care Work: Dreaming Disability Justice by Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha
 - Crip Theory: Cultural Signs of Queerness and Disability by Robert McRuer
 - Dirty River: A Queer Femme of Color Dreaming Her Way Home by Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha
 - Exile and Pride: Disability, Queerness, and Liberation by Eli Clare
 - Mean Little Deaf Queer: A Memoir by Terry Galloway
- **Some Recommended Readings (Articles):**
 - *Queer, disabled people like me are excluded from LGBTQ+ spaces – it is dividing our community* www.independent.co.uk/voices/coming-out-lgbt-gay-queer-disabled-disability-twice-sexuality-open-family-friends-a8212431.html
 - *Why the LGBTQ+ Community Must Fight for Disability Rights* www.them.us/story/disability-rights-are-lgbtq-rights

Sexual Health Resources

- **Advocates for Youth** helps young people make informed and responsible decisions about their reproductive and sexual health. They have designed lesson plans for K-12 aged youth for sexual health education. www.advocatesforyouth.org
- **AMAZE** uses digital media to provide children, adolescents, their parents and educators with medically accurate, affirming, and honest sexual health information along with free, engaging resources for adolescents 10-14. www.amaze.org
- **American Sexual Health Association** promotes the sexual health of individuals, families, and communities by advocating sound policies and practices and educating the public, policy makers, and professionals. www.ashasexualhealth.org
- **Planned Parenthood** providing sexual health care throughout the US. Find a Health Centers nearby, locate abortion services, birth control, LGBT services (including HRT), and online resources. www.plannedparenthood.org
- **Power to Decide** is a national organization aimed at providing information about sexual health and contraceptive methods so young people can make informed decisions. www.powertodecide.org
- **Scarleteen** provides inclusive, comprehensive, supportive sexuality and relationships info for teens. www.scarleteen.com