



February 1, 2024

**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**

Maria Gamble, our esteemed co-founder and Vice President, has unfortunately needed to resign from the Rainbow Rose Center Board of Directors. Since our founding, Maria tirelessly dedicated herself to fostering a safe and empowering space for all and became a guiding force behind our organization. She was a vital link in the transition between EqualityFest and the Rainbow Rose Center in 2019 – 2020. As our first Vice President, she poured her heart into helping to create our bylaws, overseeing committees, and being a voice for not only our LGBTQIA+ community, but also a voice for LGBTQIA+ people of color. Her passion, resilience, and unwavering commitment have left an indelible mark on our mission to foster an environment of inclusion, equity, and health where all LGBTQIA+ community members thrive in York County, Pennsylvania. We will miss her leadership and unique contributions even as we celebrate the legacy she leaves behind. Thank you, Maria, for your transformative role in establishing this remarkable organization. The Rainbow Rose Center and York County are better places because of your dedication and commitment to our LGBTQIA+ family. This is not goodbye, it is see you soon (at one of our events!).



As we navigate this transition, we recognize the crucial need to find a new Vice President who will assume the role of President in January 2025, when a new Board President will be elected. We invite dedicated and passionate individuals within our community to join us in shaping the future of the Rainbow Rose Center. Those interested are welcome to reach out to the Executive Committee at [executive@rainbowrosecenter.org](mailto:executive@rainbowrosecenter.org) with their cover letter and statement of interest.

Tesla Taliaferro  
(He/They)  
President, Rainbow Rose Center

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***Organizational Announcements!***

# We're Hiring!

We are thrilled to announce that we will reach yet another major milestone this new year - the hiring of our first dedicated staff members. This marks a pivotal moment in our journey, symbolizing growth, resilience, and our unwavering commitment to serving York County's LGBTQIA+ Community. We are excited to embark on this new chapter, confident that it will be undeniably effective in allowing us to channel more time and energy into the growth, impact, and outreach of the Rainbow Rose Center.

[Job Opportunities](#)

## Committee and Board Opportunities!

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

**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](mailto:ntile@rainbowrosecenter.org)

## York County Pride Vendor Application Open!



**York County Pride 2024**  
Saturday, June 22 - 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
York Fairgrounds  
334 Carlisle Ave  
York, PA 17404

## Program Schedule

### Rainbow Rose Center Health Note

The Rainbow Rose Center offers several other 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 Calendar button below.

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

February is Health Month! Read more by clicking the button below.

[Calendar](#)

[Health Note](#)

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## Major Program Updates!

We are so excited to announce the start of four new support groups in February and March! Virtual options available!



**Youth Support Group** (formally Planned Parenthood's The Curve) for LGBTQIA+ youth ages 14-21. Starts Saturday, February 3rd - 4:00-5:30 p.m. This group will meet regularly on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month at the Rainbow Rose Center office.

**Queer and Transgender People of Color (QTPOC) Support Group.** Starts Thursday, February 15th - 7:00-8:30 p.m. This group will meet the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Rainbow Rose Center office.



**Silver Triangle** (LGBTQIA+ ages 50+) Starts Saturday, March 9th - 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. with a kickoff brunch meeting. This group will meet the 2nd Saturday of the month at the Rainbow Rose Center office.

**Living Proudly HIV Support Group** is also starting very soon so stay tuned for details!

If you have questions, please contact Jennifer PageWise at [jpagewise@rainbowrosecenter.org](mailto:jpagewise@rainbowrosecenter.org).



[Meeting Signup](#)

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## **Community News!**

***Mary. Her Journey From Pain to Purpose - An Original Documentary About Mary Almy***



The Rainbow Rose Center is so proud to announce that our former Treasurer and At Large Board Member Mary Almy will be featured in an original documentary.

To read about the making of Mary. From Pain to Purpose, visit our Blog:

COMING SOON

# MARY.

HER JOURNEY FROM PAIN TO PURPOSE



[Read The Making of Mary. From Pain to Purpose](#)

## The Keystone Conference



Wednesday, March 20 through Sunday, March 24  
Harrisburg Hilton Hotel  
1 N. Second Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Join the Rainbow Rose Center for a celebration of gender diversity at the Fourteenth Annual Keystone Conference. Registration is open now!

[Keystone Conference Info](#)

Conference scholarship opportunities are available for those able to assist with the clothing exchange. For more information, reach out to Randi Andre at [randre@rainbowrosecenter.org](mailto:randre@rainbowrosecenter.org).

## Your Voice Matters!



Voting is how we tell our elected officials what is important to us, and right now we need to be making our opinions known loud and clear. This is a major election year where your vote can help decide the outcome.

Check out our Blog below to learn more about voting in Pennsylvania and important election dates.

[More Voting Info Here](#)

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## Gender Expressions



Thursday, February 15 - 6:30 - 8:45 p.m.

Break out of roles that confine you. Express yourself more authentically.

Sometimes talk therapy is not enough. Psychodrama gives you an opportunity to try out new roles. Deepen your understanding of yourself and others in this workshop for queer, trans, non-binary, and gender non-conforming people.

This workshop includes:

Games to spark creativity and build camaraderie.

Trying on new roles.

Rehearsing difficult conversations.

Techniques drawn from theater warm-up games.

Expressive therapy and psychodrama to build community.

Fun!

All people enrolling in this workshop [must schedule a 15 minute free video chat](#) with the facilitator. This screening call will answer questions and determine payment arrangements.

Pricing: **\$10 - \$30 sliding scale**

[Gender Expressions Workshop Info](#)

[Read More Community News](#)

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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.

[Learn More About Who Supports Us](#)

**CHAMPION**



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160 W Market St #1134 | York, PA 17401 US

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