WHAT CAN I DO TODAY?

LGBTQI+ newcomers need your support.

You can register today for more information, or apply to form a Community of Care at rainbowrailroad.org/welcomecorps.

Start talking to your friends, family, and coworkers about building a Community of Care.

REACH OUT TO

community@rainbowrailroad.org if you have questions, or are interested in finding other ways to support Communities of Care.

SCAN CODE BELOW TO LEARN MORE

Email community@rainbowrailroad.org if you have questions

RAINBOW RAILROAD

WELCOME CORPS

FORMING COMMUNITIES OF CARE FOR LGBTQI+ NEWCOMERS IN THE UNITED STATES

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ABOUT RAINBOW RAILROAD

Rainbow Railroad is a global charitable organization that helps LGBTQI+ people facing persecution based on their sexual orientation, gender identity and sex characteristics. Since our founding, we’ve helped almost 10,000 LGBTQI+ individuals find safety through emergency relocation, crisis response, cash assistance, and other forms of support.

WHAT IS THE WELCOME CORPS?

The Welcome Corps is an opportunity for US citizens and permanent residents to join together to privately sponsor refugees. A new program launched by the US Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) in partnership with a consortium of 6 organizations led by Community Sponsorship Hub (CSH) and including Church World Service/Refugee Welcome Collective, Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS), International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), International Rescue Committee (IRC), and Welcome.US. Rainbow Railroad was selected as a Private Sponsorship Organization for Welcome Corps, with the role of providing oversight and logistical support for Communities of Care formed by volunteers.

FORMING COMMUNITIES OF CARE

There are many places around the world where coming out isn’t safe for LGBTQI+ people. Places where living authentically is difficult and dangerous due to state-enabled homophobia and transphobia.

Rainbow Railroad is the first queer organization partnering with Welcome Corps to bring at-risk LGBTQI+ refugees to the U.S. through its Communities of Care program.

Communities of Care provide critical support to queer and trans refugees fleeing persecution and empower them with resources as they build a new life with dignity during their first 90 days in the United States. A volunteer’s contribution, no matter how big or small, makes a monumental difference in a newcomer’s life.

WHAT DOES MY SUPPORT LOOK LIKE?

Every queer person deserves to find home, belonging, and freedom. Over the course of a few months, you can help support an LGBTQI+ newcomer as they resettle in the U.S.

This process involves:

1. Submitting an application and completing your training to become a registered Private Sponsorship Group (PSG) with 4-5 other people.
2. Fundraising $2,425 USD to provide support for newcomer’s arrival (optional).
3. Getting matched with a newcomer, coordinating temporary housing in advance of their arrival, and welcoming them at the airport.
4. Helping them to access necessary social services, employment resources, and public benefits, fostering social connections, and orienting them to their new community.

Rainbow Railroad will support groups every step of the way.