



Pride Gig Harbor

LGBTQIA2S+ Resources Guide

First Edition - June 2024

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Local and National LGBTQIA2S+ Organizations

Pride Gig Harbor

URL: <https://www.pridegigharbor.gay>

Focuses on creating a welcoming environment for the LGBTQIA2+ community in Gig Harbor. It's the organization behind the annual Gig Harbor Pride in the Park event and other LGBTQIA2+ initiatives in Gig Harbor, such as a book club with monthly meetings, career development services, and this useful guide.

Free Mom Hugs

URL: : <https://freemomhugs.org>

Founded by Sara Cunningham, Free Mom Hugs is a 501(c)(3) organization that supports LGBTQIA+ individuals by offering love and acceptance one hug at a time. Their mission is to celebrate the LGBTQIA+ community and foster understanding through personal interactions. They have a local group of volunteers.

Moms for Peace

URL: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/271463855351174>

Moms for Peace (Pride, Education, Acceptance, Compassion, Equity) is a local Gig Harbor non-profit organization dedicated to empowering and supporting our community. Moms for PEACE was created to provide information and advocacy for education and equity for all students. They believe that education is a fundamental right that should be inclusive of all students, regardless of gender and race.

Rainbow Center Tacoma (Washington)

URL: www.rainbowcntr.org

Rainbow Center Tacoma provides a safe space, resources, and advocacy for the LGBTQ+ community in Tacoma. They offer support groups, educational workshops, and social events to foster community and inclusion.

Ingersoll Gender Center (Washington)

URL: www.ingersollgendercenter.org

Ingersoll Gender Center supports transgender and gender nonconforming individuals through peer support, advocacy, and education. They provide resources and services to help individuals navigate their gender transition and build community.

Transgender Law Center

URL: www.transgenderlawcenter.org

The 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 offer legal services, advocacy, and public education.

Modern Military Association of America

URL: www.modernmilitary.org

The Modern Military Association of America is the nation's largest non-profit organization dedicated to advancing equality for the LGBTQ+ military and veteran community. They

provide support, advocacy, and legal services to ensure fair treatment for all service members.

Lambert House (Washington)

URL: www.lamberthouse.org

Lambert House is a center for LGBTQ+ youth in Seattle offering activities, resources, and support. Their programs are designed to empower youth and foster a sense of community and belonging.

Seattle Counseling Service (Washington)

URL: www.seattlecounseling.org

Seattle Counseling Service provides mental health and addiction services to the LGBTQ+ community in Seattle. They offer individual and group therapy, as well as specialized programs for transgender individuals and those affected by HIV/AIDS.

Gender Justice League (Washington)

URL: www.genderjusticeleague.org

Gender Justice League focuses on empowering trans activists and allies to fight oppression based on gender and sexuality in Washington State. They engage in advocacy, community building, and public education to promote gender justice.

Outreach Center of Central Washington (Washington)

URL: www.cwoutreachcenter.org

The Outreach Center provides resources, support, and advocacy for the LGBTQ+ community in Central Washington. They offer a safe space for individuals to gather, share experiences, and access vital services.

QLaw Foundation of Washington

URL: www.q-law.org

QLaw Foundation provides legal assistance, education, and advocacy for LGBTQ+ individuals in Washington State. They offer free legal clinics, referrals, and public education to address legal issues affecting the community.

Gay City: Seattle's LGBTQ Center (Washington)

URL: www.gaycity.org

Gay City promotes wellness in LGBTQ+ communities by providing health services, connecting people to resources, fostering arts, and building community. They offer HIV testing, counseling, and support groups.

Stonewall Youth (Washington)

URL: www.stonewallyouth.org

Stonewall Youth empowers LGBTQ+ youth through education, advocacy, and support. They provide a safe space for youth to connect, learn, and grow, with programs designed to address their unique needs.

YouthCare (Washington)

URL: www.youthcare.org

YouthCare provides services to homeless youth, including those who are LGBTQ+, in Seattle. They offer shelter, education, employment training, and supportive services to help youth achieve stability and independence.

Lavender Rights Project (Washington)

URL: www.lavenderrightsproject.org

Lavender Rights Project provides low-cost civil legal services and community education by and for trans and queer individuals. Their services include legal representation, advocacy, and public education initiatives.

The Trevor Project

URL: www.thetrevorproject.org

The Trevor Project provides crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to LGBTQ+ youth under 25. They offer a 24/7 helpline, chat, and text support, as well as educational resources for young people and adults.

PFLAG

URL: www.pflag.org

PFLAG is the first and largest organization for LGBTQ+ people, their parents, and families. It offers support, education, and advocacy through a network of local chapters across the country.

LGBTQ Nation

URL: www.lgbtqnation.com

LGBTQ Nation is a leading online news source covering politics, health, and culture from an LGBTQ+ perspective. It provides up-to-date news and analysis on issues affecting the community.

GLSEN

URL: www.glsen.org

GLSEN works to ensure that LGBTQ+ students can learn and grow in a school environment free from bullying and harassment. They provide resources for educators, students, and allies to create inclusive and affirming schools.

Human Rights Campaign (HRC)

URL: www.hrc.org

The Human Rights Campaign is the largest LGBTQ+ advocacy group and political lobbying organization in the United States. They work to achieve equality through advocacy, education, and political action.

National Center for Transgender Equality

URL: www.transequality.org

The National Center for Transgender Equality advocates to change policies and society to increase understanding and acceptance of transgender people. They provide resources, policy advocacy, and public education to promote transgender equality.

Frequent Asked Questions and Tips

Bullying and Students' Rights at School

What should a student do if they are being bullied due to their LGBTQ+ identity?

Students & parents should report the bullying to a trusted teacher, school counselor, or administrator. Document the incidents, including dates, times, and descriptions. Schools have a responsibility to provide a safe learning environment and are required by law to take action against bullying.

What can parents do if their child is bullied because they are LGBTQ+?

Parents should communicate with the school to ensure they are aware of the situation and are taking appropriate steps to address it. Request a copy of the school's anti-bullying policy and ask how it is being enforced. WA State's 2019 Legislature passed a law that requires school districts to write a formal harassment, intimidation and bullying (HIB) policies and appoint a HIB Compliance Officer. Make sure to focus on the facts relates to the discrimination and harassment AND let the principal or coordinator know what you want them to do to resolve the problem.

As of the 2023-2024 school year, Sara Hoover is the Peninsula School District HIB Compliance Officer and can be contacted at 253-358-9671 or emailed at hoovers@psd401.net.

What if a teacher refuses to use a student's correct pronouns?

Students and parents should first attempt to resolve the issue by discussing it directly with the teacher and explaining the importance of using correct pronouns. Pronouns affirm gender identities and create a safe space. In Washington public schools, students have the right to be addressed by their requested pronoun and gender designation.

What are the legal protections for LGBTQ+ students in Washington State?

Washington State has strong anti-discrimination laws that protect students based on sex, sexual orientation and gender identity and gender expression. The Washington State Law Against Discrimination (WLAD) and the Washington State Human Rights Commission enforce these protections. Students and parents can file complaints if their rights are violated.

What response to discriminatory harassment complaints is required by the school?

School staff must investigate possible discriminatory harassment as soon as they know or reasonably should know- even if a parent of student does not file a complaint or ask the school to get involved. This investigation must be thorough, fair and impartial. School staff also need to protect students when necessary, even before the investigation is complete.

The school must:

1. Address any effects discriminatory harassment had on the student at school, AND
2. Make sure the harassing conduct does not happen again.

Also remember, that the Office for Civil Rights requires that schools must make sure the student who was bullied is helped and not further injured by actions taken in response. OCR says that "any remedy should not burden the student who has been bullied." OCR may be contacted at 1-800-421-3481.

Any questions or complaints of discrimination or harassment based on sex, sexual orientation, or gender expression or identity should be directed towards the district's Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator. As of the 2023-2024 school year, the Peninsula School Districts Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator is Dan Dizon and he can be reached at 253-530-1041 or dizond@psd401.net.

What should students and parents do if the school does not address bullying or discrimination?

If the school fails to take action, contact the district's Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) officer and the Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator. Document all communications and responses. If this does not resolve the issue, you can escalate your complaint through the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights at 206-607-1600 or www.ed.gov/ocr, or the WA State Human Rights Commission at 1-800-233-3247 or www.hum.wa.gov, or the U.S. Department of Justice, Educational Opportunities Section at 1-877029203804 or www.justice.gov/crt/about/edu.

You also may consider reaching out to local or national advocacy groups such as the ACLU of Washington, the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, or local organizations like Moms 4 Peace in Gig Harbor. Joining community efforts to voice concerns at school board meetings can also be effective. Legal action can be considered with the help of specialized lawyers who may be referred to as a School Abuse Lawyer.

Discrimination at Work

What constitutes workplace discrimination against LGBTQ+ individuals?

Discrimination can include unfair treatment based on sexual orientation or gender identity, such as harassment, denial of employment opportunities, unequal pay, and wrongful termination. It also includes refusal to use correct names and pronouns or creating a hostile work environment.

Are there legal protections for LGBTQ+ employees in Washington State?

Yes, Washington State's Law Against Discrimination protects all people in WA from unfair and discriminatory practices in employment. Under the law, an employer may not: (1) refuse to hire a person, (2) discharge or bar a person from a job, (3) discriminate in compensation or other terms or conditions of employment, (4) print, circulate, or use any discriminatory statement, advertisement, publication, job application form, or make any inquiry in connection with prospective employment that is discriminatory, because of a person's sexual orientation or gender identity.

Individuals can seek recourse through the Washington State Human Rights Commission at hum.wa.gov/file-complaint or 1-800-233-3247 or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission at 1-800-669-4000 or eeoc.gov.

What steps should someone take if they experience workplace discrimination?

Document the incidents in detail, including dates, times, and descriptions. Report the discrimination to your employer's human resources department or a supervisor. If the issue is not resolved, you can file a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) or the Washington State Human Rights Commission.

What can an employee do if they are being bullied or harassed in the workplace?

If an employee is being bullied or harassed by co-workers, managers, customers or vendors based on their sexual orientation or gender identity, your complaint may still qualify to be investigated by the Washington State Human Right Commission.

What can employees do if their company does not address discrimination complaints?

If the company does not take action, you should reach out to the Washington State Human Rights Commission or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. If the employee is a part of a union, the employee can contact their union advocate for assistance and representation. Organizations like the LGBTQ+ Bar Association or Lambda Legal can provide legal advice and representation.

Discrimination in Public Spaces

What should someone do if they are refused service because they are LGBTQ+?

If you are refused service, document the incident, including the date, time, location, and details of the refusal. Report the incident to the establishment's management. If the issue is not resolved, you can file a complaint with the Washington State Human Rights Commission, as discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity is illegal in public accommodations in Washington State.

What are the legal protections for LGBTQ+ individuals in public spaces in Washington State?

Washington State law protects individuals from discrimination in public accommodations based on sexual orientation and gender identity. The Washington Law Against Discrimination (WLAD) covers places such as hotels, restaurants, and stores. Individuals who face discrimination can file complaints with the Washington State Human Rights Commission.

What steps can be taken if public discrimination complaints are not addressed?

If a complaint is not adequately addressed, individuals can seek help from advocacy organizations such as the ACLU, the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, or local LGBTQ+ centers. Legal assistance can also be sought from lawyers specializing in civil rights and discrimination cases.

Tough Discussion Rules

When engaging in crucial or difficult conversations, it is important to establish some ground rules. But, how do you know it's a crucial conversation?

Does the topic cause emotions? Does your heart race, do you feel warm, hands clammy, or your stomach upset? Those are all signs this is a crucial conversation.

Ground rules:

- Must remain respectful, no interrupting, no insults
- Each individual is given the chance to speak and respond
- Listen to understand – understanding is different than agreeing. Avoid making assumptions and ask questions to gain clarity
- Focus on the goal – express needs and desired outcome
- Stay calm and kind

References: Patterson, Kerry, et al. *Crucial Conversations*. McGraw-Hill Contemporary, 2002.

Communication Tips for Parents of LGBTQIA2S+ Youth

Let them know they are loved

"I'm here for you. I love you, and I will support you no matter what."

Thank them for putting trust in you, coming out is a hard thing to do

"Thank you for sharing this part of yourself, I'm glad you felt comfortable enough to do so because I know it can be scary."

"I accept you and love you no matter what."

Encourage dialogue and be curious

Ask questions, be interested in their friends, their interests.

How to get them talking

Bring up their child's friends or characters you encounter while watching age-appropriate movies or TV. For example, if a movie has a bisexual character, spark a conversation by saying "*The character in this show is attracted to both boys and girls. That's ok with me. What do you think?*"

Coming out as trans, nonbinary, or other transgender identities

"Do you have a name and pronouns you would like me to refer to you by?"

How can you advocate for your child as well as others?

- Advocate for a gay-straight alliance (GSA) – has been shown to make schools safer and boost academic performance among LGBTQ students.
- Maintain frequent contact with teachers.
- Push for more inclusive sex education. Very few states allow schools to provide LGBTQ students with the information they need to be safe and healthy. Be aware of these knowledge gaps so you can fill them yourself.
- Above all, don't hesitate to speak up!

What are some signs of bullying?

- Behavior change (e.g. your outgoing, sociable child is now withdrawn)
- Discipline or behavioral problems in school
- Declining grades

- Unexplained absences
- Sudden shifts in who's a friend and who's not
- Engagement in risky behavior that is out of character

References: GSA Network <https://gsanetwork.org/what-is-a-gsa/>; StopBullying.gov <https://www.prevnet.ca/bullying/signs> ; Jessica German Doherty, SPHR

Communication Tips on How to Show Support of the LGBTQIA2S+ Community

- **Listen** – Listen to their experiences, feelings and concerns without judgment. Let them know they are heard and supported.
- **Respect their identity** – Use their chosen gender pronouns and affirm how they choose to live. Misgendering someone can cause harm.
- **Be an ally** – Challenge discrimination, misconceptions and stigma. Also be open as a supporter of LGBTQ+ equality.
- **Educate others** – Respond when you hear others using non-inclusive language, making derogatory jokes, or using incorrect assumptions. Tell them why you think their comment was inappropriate and how they can improve it.
- **Create a safe space** – Foster an atmosphere of acceptance, love and support within your family or social circle. Also take action locally to help create more safe spaces.

You can also consider your own assumptions and biases, and don't ask intrusive questions. If you make a mistake, even an honest one, don't be surprised if it results in an emotional reaction. Apologizing can help de-fuse a difficult situation and re-establish a constructive dialogue.

Responding to Sexism, Homophobia, and Transphobia

- *Aren't you trying to change people's beliefs?*
No, we value and respect all people and want them to feel safe.
- *Comments regarding clothes, toys, colors, jobs, etc. being gendered.*
There is no such thing "girls' clothes" or "boys' clothes"
All toys are for everyone
Clothes are just clothes! They don't have a gender. You can like whatever clothes that you like.
- *Someone using "a girl" or "girly" as a taunt or insult.*
All people are equal. Being a girl is not an insult.
To say, 'you throw like a girl' is to say that girls are not as good at throwing as boys are.
How well you can run is not based on your gender.
- *Disrespectful use of words like Gay and Lesbian*
Gay does not mean bad. If you meant that you don't like something, then say that.

- *Homophobic language*

Those words are very hurtful

Everyone has a right to feel valued and safe

- *Equating Gender Identity with Body Parts*

Being a boy/ girl/ or neither comes from your brain/ mind, not from your body parts

It's none of your business what body parts someone has. That is private and not for others to comment on.

References: Egale, Canada Human Rights Trust https://www.gov.nl.ca/education/files/k12_safeandcaring_pdf_responding.sexism.homophobia.transphobia.pdf; Jessica German Doherty, SPHR

LGBTQIA2S+ Health and Wellness Resources

Hotlines and Crisis Intervention Services

The Trevor Project Lifeline

Phone: 1-866-488-7386

Provides crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to LGBTQ+ youth under 25. Available 24/7 via phone, text, and chat.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

Phone: 1-800-273-8255 (TALK)

Offers free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals.

Trans Lifeline

Phone: 1-877-565-8860

A peer support service run by trans people, for trans and questioning callers. Provides direct emotional and financial support to trans people in crisis.

LGBT National Help Center Hotline

Phone: 1-888-843-4564

Provides free and confidential peer support and local resources for LGBTQ+ individuals. Offers support via phone, chat, and email.

Crisis Text Line

Phone: Text "HELLO" to 741741

Provides free, 24/7 support for those in crisis. Text with a trained Crisis Counselor from anywhere in the USA.

GLBT National Youth Talkline

Phone: 1-800-246-7743

Provides telephone, online private one-to-one chat, and email peer-support, as well as factual information and local resources for cities and towns across the United States.

Teen Link (Washington State)

Phone: 1-866-833-6546

A confidential and anonymous helpline for teens in Washington State, staffed by trained teen volunteers who listen and provide support. Available evenings from 6-10 PM.

Washington Listens

Phone: 1-833-681-0211

Provides support to people experiencing stress due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Available weekdays from 9 AM to 9 PM and weekends from 9 AM to 6 PM.

The NW Network of Bi, Trans, Lesbian, and Gay Survivors of Abuse

Phone: 206-568-7777

Provides support for LGBTQ survivors of abuse, including safety planning, counseling, and advocacy.

StrongHearts Native Helpline

Phone: 1-844-762-8483

A safe, anonymous, and confidential service for Native Americans experiencing domestic violence and dating violence. Available 24/7.

SAMHSA's National Helpline

Phone: 1-800-662-HELP (4357)

A confidential, free, 24-hour-a-day, 365-day-a-year information service, in English and Spanish, for individuals and family members facing mental and/or substance use disorders.

King County 24-Hour Crisis Line

Phone: 1-866-427-4747

Provides immediate help to individuals, families, and friends of people in emotional crisis.

Washington Recovery Help Line

Phone: 1-866-789-1511

Offers 24-hour emotional support and referrals to local treatment services for substance use, problem gambling, and mental health.

National Domestic Violence Hotline

Phone: 1-800-799-7233

Provides 24/7 support for survivors of domestic violence. Offers crisis intervention, safety planning, and resources.

RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network)

Phone: 1-800-656-HOPE (4673)

Provides confidential support for survivors of sexual violence through a national hotline and online chat.

LGBTQ+ Friendly Healthcare Providers, Clinics, and Services (Including Mental Health Professionals)

Providers listed below may have been noted based on their public statement, referrals from the community and/or vetted by PGH (which requires a form to be filled, signed, and reviewed by PGH president, board, or staff). Please note the reference for each provider.

Virginia Mason Franciscan Health (VMFH) Inclusive Healthcare

Address: multiple locations in Tacoma, Seattle, Bremerton, and more.

Phone: 888-825-3227

URL: <https://www.vmfh.org> and <https://www.vmfh.org/our-services/transgender-health/lgbtq-resources> for all their LGBTQ+ resources

Virginia Mason Franciscan Health is dedicated to delivering top-quality healthcare across the Puget Sound region. Recognized as an LGBTQ+ Healthcare Equality Leader by the Human Rights Campaign, VMFH continuously works to ensure all patients receive respectful and inclusive care. Their services span a wide range, from primary care to specialized treatments, with a commitment to addressing healthcare disparities. VMFH is one of the sponsors of Gig Harbor Pride in the Park 2024.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not Yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

Summit Mental Health

Address: 5122 Olympic Dr NW Ste A105, Gig Harbor, WA 98335

Phone: 253-853-7077

URL: <http://www.summitmentalhealth.net>

Therapeutic, psychiatric, clinical psychological services for youth and adults. They are an organization supporting LGBTQIA+ clients and providers. Multiple of their employers identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Yes

Suggested by Community: Yes

MultiCare Health System

Address: 4545 Point Fosdick Dr, Gig Harbor, WA 98335 / 521 Martin Luther King Jr Way, Tacoma, WA 98405 and other locations

Phone: 253-530-8000

URL: www.multicare.org

MultiCare offers a variety of services, including primary care and gender health services. They are dedicated to providing inclusive care for LGBTQ+ patients.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

Pride Counseling NW

Address: 3218 Sixth Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98406 / 2607 Bridgeport Way W University Place, WA 98466

Phone: 253-201-0203

URL: <https://www.pridecounselingnw.com>

Pride Counseling NW offers a range of therapeutic services designed to help individuals heal, grow, and belong. Their team of experienced therapists provides a safe and supportive environment for clients to explore their mental health needs and achieve their personal goals.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

Gig Harbor Primary Care

Address: 4423 Point Fosdick Dr #200, Gig Harbor, WA 98335

Phone: 253-432-4437

URL: www.ghprimarycare.com

Gig Harbor Primary Care provides holistic healthcare services for all ages, emphasizing the overall well-being of their patients. They are one of the sponsors of Gig Harbor Pride in the Park 2024.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

Rainier Hyperbaric

Address: 11505 Burnham Drive, Gig Harbor, WA 98332

URL: <https://rainierhyperbaric.com/>

From one of the (queer) owner's mouth: "It is our mission to have a safe and comfortable healing environment for all." Rainier Hyperbaric in Gig Harbor offers hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) using Sechrist hard shell monoplace chambers. This noninvasive and painless treatment helps improve healing rates and fight infections by saturating tissues with 100% pure oxygen. HBOT is beneficial for chronic illnesses, injuries, PTSD, and more.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

CHC of Pierce County - Key Medical Center and Hilltop Regional Health Center

Address: 15610 89th St Ct NW, Key Center, WA 98349 and 1202 Martin Luther King Jr Way, Tacoma, WA 98405

Phone: 253-441-4742

URL: www.commhealth.org

Offers a wide range of health services, including primary care, behavioral health, and HIV/AIDS care. They have providers offering inclusive and affirming care to LGBTQ+ patients (<https://www.commhealth.org/provider/katie-lager-np/>)

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

Ryan Therapy Services

14812 28th Ave NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98332

URL: <https://www.ryancouplestherapy.com/>

Individual and couple's teletherapy, with specialized training in sex and intimate relationship therapy. From the website "(I) support, prioritize, and honor BIPOC and LBGTQIA communities, individuals, and businesses".

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

Path of Fortitude(Christyn Modica)

2528 Wheaton Way | Bremerton, WA 98310

URL: <https://www.pathoffortitudепllc.com/>

A safe place for LGBTQIA+ community and alternative-style relationships. Helping people heal relational wounds that impact the brain, body, and nervous system with current and effective body-oriented, neurobiological approaches.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Yes

Suggested by Community: Yes

OutCare Health Directory

URL: www.outcarehealth.org

A searchable directory of healthcare providers who are knowledgeable and sensitive to the unique health needs of LGBTQ+ people. Includes various medical professionals across the USA.

LGBTQ+ Healthcare Directory

URL: www.lgbtqhealthcaredirectory.org

A comprehensive directory created by the Tegan and Sara Foundation and GLMA to help LGBTQ+ individuals find friendly and competent healthcare providers in their area.

HIV and AIDS Resources

Pierce County AIDS Foundation (PCAF)

Address: 3009 S 40th St, Tacoma, WA 98409

Phone: 253-383-2565

URL: www.pcaf-wa.org

Provides comprehensive services for individuals affected by HIV/AIDS, including testing, prevention, education, and support services.

Tacoma Needle Exchange Program

Address: 714 S 27th St, Tacoma, WA 98409

Phone: 253-272-4857

URL: www.tacomaneedleexchange.org

Offers harm reduction services, including needle exchange, HIV testing, and education to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Gay City: Seattle's LGBTQ Center

Address: 517 E Pike St, Seattle, WA 98122

Phone: 206-860-6969

URL: www.gaycity.org

Provides HIV testing, STI screenings, and resources for LGBTQ+ health and wellness. While based in Seattle, they offer resources and referrals that can be useful for residents in the Gig Harbor area.

Lifelong AIDS Alliance

Address: 1016 E Pike St, Seattle, WA 98122

Phone: 206-957-1600

URL: www.lifelong.org

Offers comprehensive HIV/AIDS services including case management, housing support, food and nutrition services, and prevention education.

Peer Seattle

1520 Bellevue Ave STE 100 Seattle WA 98122

URL: <https://www.peerseattle.org/>

Peer Seattle provides peer emotional support and development services to Washington state residents impacted by temporary or chronic addiction, mental health and/or HIV/AIDS or other sexually transmitted diseases.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Yes

Suggested by Community: Yes

LGBTQIA2S+ Community Groups and Events

High School Inclusive Community Groups

Henderson Bay High School: People for Inclusivity "Pi Club"

Peninsula High School: GSA (Gay Straight Alliance)

Gig Harbor High School: QSA (Queer Straight Alliance)

LGBTQIA2s+ Community Groups

Pride Gig Harbor

URL: <https://www.pridegigharbor.gay>

Pride Gig Harbor Community Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/pridegigharbor/>

Focuses on creating a welcoming environment for the LGBTQIA2+ community in Gig Harbor. Organizes the Pride in the Park event and most LGBTQIA2+ initiatives in Gig Harbor. Also, it hosts a book club and created this useful guide. The Facebook group is a place to meet the local queer community, exchange ideas, and plan meetings.

Gig Harbor Queer Market

URL: www.facebook.com/groups/gigharborqueermarket

A community group focused on providing a safer and more inclusive marketplace for the LGBTQIA2+ community in Gig Harbor. It offers a platform for buying, selling, and supporting queer-owned businesses and services.

Gig Harbor Moms for Inclusivity, Diversity, and Acceptance

URL: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/300345106146376>

A group is for individuals and families in the Gig Harbor and surrounding areas that want to show support, love, acceptance, and inclusivity to and for the LGBTQIA+, POC, and neurodivergent communities.

Rainbow Center (Tacoma)

2215 Pacific Ave, Tacoma, WA 98402

Phone: 253-383-2318

URL: <https://www.rainbowcntr.org>

Provides a safe space and resources for the LGBTQ+ community in Tacoma. Offers various events, support groups, and educational programs focused on advocacy, education, and celebration.

Gay City: Seattle's LGBTQ Center

400 E Pine St #100, Seattle, WA 98122

Phone: 206-860-6969

URL: <https://www.gaycity.org>

Offers health services, arts and culture programs, and resources for LGBTQ+ individuals. Hosts numerous community events and support groups.

Kitsap Pride Network

URL: <https://www.kitsappride.org>

An organization that supports the LGBTQ+ community in Kitsap County through events, advocacy, and creating safe spaces.

Inclusive Churches

Fox Island United Church of Christ

756 6th Avenue, PO Box 475, Fox Island, WA 98333

URL: <https://foxislanducc.org/>

The Fox Island United Church of Christ participated in Gig Harbor Pride in the Park 2023 and 2024. They also hosted the Transgender Day of Remembrance vigil with Pride Gig Harbor. They have a joint youth group and gatherings along with Gig Harbor United Methodist Church, Agnus Dei Lutheran Church, and St. John's Episcopal Church.

Gig Harbor United Methodist Church

7400 Pioneer Way, Gig Harbor, WA 98335

URL: <http://www.ghumc.org/>

Gig Harbor United Methodist Church seeks to be a community where persons of every age, gender identity, racial or ethnic background, sexual orientation, marital or socioeconomic status, nationality, and physical or mental ability find themselves welcome.

Agnus Dei Lutheran Church

10511 Peacock Hill Ave NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98332

URL: <https://www.agnusdeilutheran.org/>

The congregation of Agnus Dei Lutheran Church welcome all, regardless of age, ethnicity, abilities, faith background, race, family configuration, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression.

St. John's Episcopal Church

7701 Skansie Avenue Gig Harbor, WA 98335

URL: <https://www.stjohnsgigharbor.org/>

St. John's is an Episcopal parish with a peaceful and authentic spirit with members who are diverse in terms of age, wealth, theological and political persuasions, gender identity and sexual orientation.

LGBTQIA2S+ Upcoming Events

Tacoma Pride Festival

Dates: July 1, 2024 - July 13, 2024

Location: Various locations in Tacoma

URL: <https://tacomapride.org>

Includes events such as the Tacoma Dome Pride Flag Raising, LGBTQ+ Community Pride Awards, and a Pride Celebration.

Indigiqueer Festival

Date: June 23, 2024

Location: Pier 62, Seattle

A festival celebrating Indigenous LGBTQ+ identities with food, drag performances, and music.

PrideFest Capitol Hill

Date: June 24, 2024

Location: Broadway, Seattle

A free community street party featuring live music, a beer garden, and activities for all ages.

Seattle Pride Parade

Date: June 25, 2024

Location: Downtown Seattle, starting at Fourth and Pike

The annual Pride Parade celebrates the LGBTQ+ community with vibrant floats, performances, and community groups.

PrideFest at Seattle Center

Date: June 25, 2024

Location: Seattle Center

The largest Pride party of the month, featuring entertainment, food, and community engagement.

Kitsap Pride

Date: July 20, 2024

Location: Kitsap County Fairgrounds, Bremerton

URL: <https://www.kitsappride.org>

A festival featuring live performances, food vendors, and a beer garden, along with a Teen Space and Kid Zone.

Tacoma Art Museum Pride Party

Date: July 20, 2024

Location: Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma

A free, all-ages event celebrating the arts and the LGBTQ+ community.

Tacoma Pride Movie in the Park

Date: July 14, 2024

Location: People's Park, Tacoma

A free outdoor screening of the 1988 version of "Hairspray."

LGBTQIA2S+ Legal Assistance Resources

Local LGBTQ+ Legal Aid Organizations

Legal Voice

Address: 907 Pine St, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98101

Phone: 206-682-9552

URL: www.legalvoice.org

Advocates for and provides legal resources to advance the legal rights of women and LGBTQ+ people in the Northwest. They offer direct legal services, policy advocacy, and education.

ACLU of Washington

Address: 901 5th Ave Suite 630, Seattle, WA 98164

Phone: 206-624-2184

URL: www.aclu-wa.org

Provides legal assistance and advocacy on a wide range of civil liberties issues, including LGBTQ+ rights. The ACLU works to protect and advance the rights of LGBTQ+ individuals through litigation, lobbying, and public education.

Lavender Rights Project

Address: 10002 Aurora Ave N, Suite 36-558, Seattle, WA 98133

Phone: 206-639-7955

URL: www.lavenderrightsproject.org

Provides low-cost civil legal services and community education by and for black trans and queer individuals. They offer legal representation, advocacy, and education to address the specific needs of LGBTQ+ people.

QLaw Foundation of Washington

Address: Seattle, WA

Phone: 206-235-2750

URL: <https://www qlaw.org/>

Offers legal clinics, educational programs, and advocacy to address legal issues affecting the LGBTQ+ community. The QLaw Foundation works to bridge the gap between legal services and the LGBTQ+ community.

Seattle Office for Civil Rights

Address: 810 3rd Ave Suite 750, Seattle, WA 98104

Phone: 206-684-4500

URL: www.seattle.gov/civilrights

Enforces anti-discrimination laws and provides legal assistance to individuals facing discrimination, including based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Northwest Justice Project

Address: 401 2nd Ave S, Suite 407, Seattle, WA 98104

Phone: 206-464-1519

URL: www.nwjustice.org

Description: Provides free legal services to low-income individuals and families in Washington State, including LGBTQ+ individuals. They offer assistance in various areas such as housing, public benefits, and family law..

Pierce County Center for Center for Dialog & Resolution

Address: 738 Broadway, Suite 400, Tacoma, WA 98402

Phone: 253-572-3657

URL: <https://www.centerforresolution.org/>

Description: Provides mediation and conflict resolution services. They work with individuals and organizations to resolve disputes amicably, including those related to LGBTQ+ issues.

Kitsap Legal Services

Address: 920 Park Ave, Bremerton, WA 98337

Phone: 360-479-6125

URL: www.kitsaplegalservices.org

Description: Offers free legal assistance to low-income residents of Kitsap County, including LGBTQ+ individuals. They handle cases involving family law, housing, and public benefits.

National LGBTQ+ Legal Aid Organizations

Lambda Legal

Phone: 212-809-8585

URL: www.lambdalegal.org

Description: A national organization committed to achieving full recognition of the civil rights of LGBTQ+ people and everyone living with HIV through impact litigation, education, and public policy work.

Transgender Law Center

Phone: 415-865-0176

URL: www.transgenderlawcenter.org

Description: The largest national trans-led organization advocating self-determination for all people. They offer legal services, policy advocacy, and public education.

National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR)

Phone: 415-392-6257

URL: www.nclrights.org

Description: A national legal organization committed to advancing the civil and human rights of LGBTQ+ people and their families through litigation, public policy advocacy, and public education.

GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD)

Phone: 800-455-GLAD (4523)

URL: www.glad.org

Works through litigation, advocacy, and education to create a just society free of discrimination based on gender identity and expression, HIV status, and sexual orientation.

Human Rights Campaign (HRC)

Phone: 800-777-4723

URL: www.hrc.org

The largest national LGBTQ+ civil rights organization, working to achieve equality through lobbying, litigation, and public education.

LGBTQIA2S+ Educational Resources

Local & National LGBTQ+ Newspapers and Magazines

Seattle Gay News

URL: www.sgn.org

Established in 1974, Seattle Gay News is one of the oldest LGBTQ+ newspapers in the United States. It covers a wide range of topics including news, arts, entertainment, and opinion pieces relevant to the LGBTQ+ community in Seattle and beyond.

The Stranger

URL: www.thestranger.com

A Seattle-based alternative biweekly newspaper that features news, politics, arts, and culture. It provides in-depth coverage of LGBTQ+ issues and events, along with local and national news.

Gay Parent Magazine

URL: www.gayparentmag.com

This magazine focuses on LGBTQ+ parents and their families, offering stories, resources, and support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender parents.

Curve Magazine

URL: www.curvemag.com

Curve is the world's best-selling lesbian magazine, featuring articles on culture, politics, and lifestyle for lesbian and bisexual women.

Lavender Magazine

URL: www.lavendermagazine.com

Lavender Magazine covers news, arts, and entertainment with a focus on the LGBTQ+ community.

Passport Magazine

URL: www.passportmagazine.com

A premier LGBTQ+ travel magazine offering travel tips, destination guides, and cultural insights for LGBTQ+ travelers.

Out Magazine

URL: www.out.com

Out is a popular LGBTQ+ lifestyle magazine that covers fashion, entertainment, and news relevant to the LGBTQ+ community.

Metrosource Magazine

URL: www.metrosource.com

This magazine offers news, culture, and lifestyle content for the LGBTQ+ community, focusing on urban living and events.

LGBTQ Nation

URL: www.lgbtqnation.com

A leading online news source for LGBTQ+ news and issues, covering politics, culture, and community events.

Compete Network

URL: www.competenetwork.com

The first LGBTQ+ sports magazine, providing coverage on LGBTQ+ athletes, sports news, and events.

The Advocate

URL: www.advocate.com

One of the most respected LGBTQ+ news magazines, The Advocate offers comprehensive coverage on politics, culture, and health within the LGBTQ+ community.

Books

"Queer: A Graphic History" by Dr. Meg-John Barker and Julia Scheele

This graphic novel critically examines concepts of gender and sexual expression. It unpacks popular norms of identity politics, inclusion, and gender roles through comic panels, making complex ideas accessible and engaging.

"Orlando" by Virginia Woolf

This classic novel follows the transformation of Orlando, who changes from a man to a woman and lives for centuries without aging. The story explores gender fluidity and identity in a richly imaginative narrative.

"Stand by Me: The Forgotten History of Gay Liberation" by Jim Downs

Historian Jim Downs chronicles decades of LGBTQ+ activism, from the Stonewall riots to often overlooked figures who launched the gay rights movement. The book provides a rich historical perspective on the complexities of LGBTQ+ life in the United States.

"Born Both: An Intersex Life" by Hida Viloria

This memoir by intersex and non-binary activist Hida Viloria details life "in the space between genders." It explores the journey of finding acceptance and love in a world that insists on categorizing.

"Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic" by Alison Bechdel

A graphic memoir about Bechdel's experience growing up with a closeted gay father. The book is both a coming-of-age story and a poignant exploration of family dynamics and self-acceptance.

"Am I Blue? Coming Out from the Silence" edited by Marion Dane Bauer

This anthology of LGBTQ+ short stories for young adults portrays diverse coming-out experiences, illuminating the pivotal moments that shape the characters' development.

"The Miseducation of Cameron Post" by Emily M. Danforth

After her parents' death, Cameron Post is sent to a gay conversion camp by her conservative aunt. The novel explores her struggle with identity and her path to self-acceptance.

"Becoming Eve: My Journey from Ultra-Orthodox Rabbi to Transgender Woman" by Abby Stein

Abby Stein recounts her transition from living as a male rabbinical student in an ultra-Orthodox Jewish community to embracing her identity as a transgender woman. The memoir explores the intersection of faith and gender identity.

"When We Rise: My Life in the Movement" by Cleve Jones

Activist Cleve Jones, a contemporary of Harvey Milk, shares his journey through the LGBTQ+ rights movement. The memoir offers an insider's perspective on key moments in LGBTQ+ history.

"A Year Without a Name" by Cyrus Grace Dunham

This memoir details Dunham's journey of questioning, self-discovery, and transitioning. It is a poignant exploration of identity and belonging.

"We Are Everywhere: Protest, Power, and Pride in the History of Queer Liberation" by Matthew Riemer and Leighton Brown

This book offers a visually stunning journey through queer history, from the late 19th century to present-day politics. It highlights key moments and figures in the fight for LGBTQ+ rights, making it a powerful educational resource.

"The Argonauts" by Maggie Nelson

A genre-bending memoir that explores Nelson's relationship with the fluidly gendered artist Harry Dodge. The book delves into themes of family, identity, and love, offering a deeply personal perspective on queerness.

"The Secret Diaries of Miss Anne Lister" by Helena Whitbread

Anne Lister, known as "Gentleman Jack," documented her life as a lesbian in coded diaries during the 19th century. This book provides a rare glimpse into her courageous life and the challenges she faced.

"Queer Intentions: A (Personal) Journey Through LGBTQ+ Culture" by Amelia Abraham

Journalist Amelia Abraham explores contemporary queer culture, traveling from drag shows in LA to underground clubs in Turkey. The book is a vibrant and insightful exploration of modern LGBTQ+ life.

"How to Survive a Plague: The Inside Story of How Citizens and Science Tamed AIDS" by David France

An insider's account of the battle against the AIDS epidemic, highlighting how grassroots activists and scientists worked together to save lives. This book is a testament to the power of community and activism.

"How We Fight for Our Lives" by Saeed Jones

A coming-of-age memoir by Saeed Jones, detailing his experiences growing up as a black gay man in the South. The book is a poignant exploration of identity, race, and sexuality.

"We Have Always Been Here: A Queer Muslim Memoir" by Samra Habib

Journalist Samra Habib narrates her journey as a queer Muslim woman, detailing her struggles with faith, family, and identity. The memoir is a powerful story of resilience and self-discovery.

"Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic" by Alison Bechdel

This graphic memoir explores Bechdel's relationship with her closeted gay father and her own journey of self-discovery. It is both a personal narrative and a broader commentary on family dynamics and identity.

"Born Both: An Intersex Life" by Hida Viloria

Hida Viloria shares their experiences growing up intersex and their journey towards self-acceptance. The memoir addresses the challenges and triumphs of living between genders.

"Stand by Me: The Forgotten History of Gay Liberation" by Jim Downs

Historian Jim Downs provides a comprehensive history of LGBTQ+ activism, from the Stonewall riots to the present. The book highlights lesser-known figures and events that played crucial roles in the movement.

"Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity" by Judith Butler

This foundational text in gender theory challenges the traditional understandings of gender and identity. Butler introduces the concept of gender performativity, which has become a key idea in queer theory.

"Stonewall: The Riots That Sparked the Gay Revolution" by David Carter

A detailed account of the Stonewall Riots, which are widely considered the catalyst for the modern LGBTQ+ rights movement. Carter provides historical context and personal stories from those who were there.

"Redefining Realness: My Path to Womanhood, Identity, Love & So Much More" by Janet Mock

In this memoir, Janet Mock, a transgender woman of color, shares her journey of self-discovery and activism. It is an inspiring story of resilience and the fight for equality.

"The Gay Revolution: The Story of the Struggle" by Lillian Faderman

This book provides a comprehensive history of the LGBTQ+ movement in the United States, covering major events, figures, and legal battles from the mid-20th century to the present.

"Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches" by Audre Lorde

A collection of essays and speeches by the influential Black lesbian feminist poet and activist Audre Lorde. Her writings cover issues of race, gender, sexuality, and social justice.

Movies & TV Series

The Death and Life of Marsha P. Johnson

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5233558/>

A documentary that investigates the mysterious death of Marsha P. Johnson, a prominent LGBTQ+ activist and one of the key figures in the Stonewall Riots.

Moonlight

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4975722/>

An Academy Award-winning film that follows the life of a young Black man grappling with his identity and sexuality while growing up in a rough neighborhood in Miami.

Philadelphia

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0107818/>

A powerful drama about a man with AIDS who sues his employer for discrimination. Rated PG-13.

Boys Don't Cry

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0171804/>

A biographical drama about Brandon Teena, a transgender man navigating life and love in rural Nebraska. Rated R.

The L Word

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0330251>

A groundbreaking series that follows the lives and loves of a group of lesbian friends in Los Angeles. Rated TV-MA.

Veneno

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10383046>

A biographical series about Cristina Ortiz, a transgender icon in Spain. The show highlights her struggles and triumphs. Rated TV-MA.

RuPaul's Drag Race

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1353056/>

A reality competition show where drag queens compete in various challenges to become America's next drag superstar. Rated TV-14.

Pose

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt7562112>

Set in the 1980s and 90s, this series explores the ball culture of New York City and the lives of LGBTQ+ people of color. Rated TV-MA.

The Miseducation of Cameron Post

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6257174>

A teenage girl is sent to a conversion therapy camp after being caught with another girl. Rated R.

Happiest Season

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt8522006>

A holiday rom-com about a woman who plans to propose to her girlfriend but discovers she hasn't come out to her conservative parents. Rated PG-13.

Pariah

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1233334>

A coming-of-age story about a Brooklyn teenager embracing her identity as a lesbian. Rated R.

Before Night Falls

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0247196>

A biographical drama about Cuban poet and novelist Reinaldo Arenas, exploring his life and struggles. Rated R.

A Fantastic Woman

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5639354>

A Chilean drama about a transgender woman mourning the death of her lover. Rated R.

Brokeback Mountain

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0388795>

A love story between two cowboys over several decades, exploring themes of love and societal expectations. Rated R.

Can You Ever Forgive Me?

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4595882>

A biographical film about author Lee Israel, who turns to forgery when she falls out of favor with publishers. Rated R.

Call Me By Your Name

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5726616/>

A romantic drama about a summer romance between a 17-year-old boy and his father's assistant. Rated R.

Fire Island

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt15218000/>

A modern adaptation of Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice" set in a famous gay vacation destination. Rated R.

The Birdcage

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0115685/>

A comedy about a gay couple who try to act straight for their son's future in-laws. Rated R.

120 BPM (Beats Per Minute)

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6135348/>

A French drama about the AIDS activist group ACT UP Paris in the early 1990s. Rated R.

Love, Simon

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5164432/>

A teen coming-out story that is both heartwarming and family-friendly.

Love

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10638036>

A sweet series following two boys in high school navigating their feelings and relationships. Rated TV-14

The Fosters

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2262532>

A drama about a blended family headed by a lesbian couple. Rated TV-14

Schitt's Creek

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3526078>

A comedy about a family, once wealthy and now penniless, forced to live in a small town. Rated TV-14.

Articles

Celebrating Inclusivity: The Importance of Hosting a Pride Event in Gig Harbor

URL: <https://pridegigharbor.gay/the-importance-of-hosting-a-pride-event-in-gig-harbor/>

The importance of hosting a Pride event in Gig Harbor transcends the boundaries of mere celebration. For us, it's an opportunity to come together as a community, to support our LGBTQIA2S+ friends, family members, and neighbors, and to send a resounding message that love and acceptance are at the heart of what makes Gig Harbor special.

What to Say When Someone Comes Out to You

URL: <https://italianinusa.com/what-to-say-when-someone-comes-out-to-you/>

Your words and actions can contribute to a more inclusive and loving world. Learn what to say when someone comes out to you and how to navigate these conversations with compassion, understanding, and a whole lot of heart.

Discrimination and Barriers to Well-Being: The State of the LGBTQI+ Community

URL: <https://www.americanprogress.org/article/discrimination-and-barriers-to-well-being-the-state-of-the-lgbtqi-community-in-2022/>

Learn more about how LGBTQI+ people experience structural and interpersonal discrimination that adversely affects their well-being and drives disparate outcomes across crucial areas of life.

Websites

GLAAD

URL: www.glaad.org

An organization that works through media to accelerate acceptance and equality for LGBTQ+ people. The website offers news, resources, and advocacy tools.

THEM

URL: www.them.us

An online magazine that covers LGBTQ+ news, culture, and lifestyle. It features articles on a variety of topics including identity, activism, and entertainment.

LGBTQ Nation
www.lgbtqnation.com

A news website that covers LGBTQ+ issues, politics, and culture. It provides up-to-date information on the latest developments affecting the LGBTQ+ community.

LGBTQIA2S+ Inclusive Local Businesses

This section highlights a list of local businesses in our community that have been vetted or recommended by members as safe and welcoming spaces for LGBTQIA2+ individuals. These businesses are committed to fostering an inclusive environment where everyone can feel respected and valued.

MoonWillow Esthetix

URL: <https://pocketsuite.io/book/maren-wagner>

Individually owned small SPA. MoonWillow Esthetix provides services and a safe space for all bodies to feel comfortable and cared for in their skin.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Yes

Suggested by Community: Yes

Honey Soup

URL: <https://honeysoup23.square.site>

Honey Soup is a queer owned business creating watercolor bird constellations in pride flag colors and selling prints, stickers and cards. They also create pride beaded bracelets. They sell at festivals and online.

French Toast Theatre

Address: 8809 N Harborview Dr #101, Gig Harbor, WA 98332

URL: <http://frenchtoasttheatre.com/>

French Toast Theatre is dedicated to creating fun and engaging experiences for kids. They offer a wide range of activities, including summer camps, ballet lessons, theatre productions, Mini & Me classes, after-school programs, and party planning. French Toast Theatre has been the sponsor of Gig Harbor Pride in the Park Kids Fun Zone in 2023 and 2024.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Yes

Suggested by Community: Yes

Gig Harbor Goddesses

Brought to you by French Toast Theatre. An exciting program designed for girls between the ages of 8 and 13. This club offers a unique opportunity for girls to engage with nature, learn valuable outdoor skills, gain knowledge about influential women who have made a significant impact on the environment, and develop entrepreneurial skills.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Yes

Suggested by Community: Ye

Aphrodisia Boutique

Address: 1014 Bay Street (Suite 4), Port Orchard, WA 98366

URL: <https://aphrodisia.boutique>

Aphrodisia Boutique sells body-safe sex toys and lube, size-inclusive lingerie, gender-affirming products such as packers and gaffs, educational books, BDSM gear and accessories. They also run educational workshops and discussion groups.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Yes

Suggested by Community: Yes

Blissfully Organized

URL: <https://www.blissfullyorganizedsolutions.com>

Serving Pierce, Kitsap, and Mason Counties, Blissfully Organized specializes in creating intentional and organized spaces that bring peace and efficiency to homes and offices. Blissfully Organized helps busy families and professionals declutter and organize their spaces. Whether it's managing overwhelming paperwork, coordinating schedules, or setting up efficient storage solutions, their goal is to create thoughtful, maintainable systems. Blissfully Organized is one of the sponsors of Gig Harbor Pride in the Park 2024 and other initiatives by Pride Gig Harbor.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Yes

Suggested by Community: Yes

TAPCO

URL: <https://tapcocu.org>

TAPCO provides a variety of financial services, including savings and checking accounts, loans, and credit cards. They also offer specialized programs like the Moola Kids Club and PACE Teen Program, designed to help young members manage their finances. TAPCO is dedicated to community involvement and has supported numerous local initiatives, including Gig Harbor Pride in the Park 2024 and 2023.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Yes

Suggested by Community: Yes

Harbor Balloons

URL: <https://www.harborballoons.com>

Harbor Balloons is dedicated to transforming events with their creative and vibrant balloon designs. From arches and columns to custom creations, they bring a unique and festive touch to parties, weddings, and community events throughout Gig Harbor (and surrounding area). Harbor Balloons has supported multiple local LGBTQIA2S+ events including the PGH Roller Derby 2024 and Pride in the Park 2023 and 2024.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Yes

Suggested by Community: Yes

Juniper Lynne Photography

URL: <https://juniperlynne.com>

Juniper Lynne offers a range of photography services, from portraits to event photography. They are known for their creativity, emotional depth, and ability to tell a story through her photos. Juniper Lynne also volunteered her time to take stunning photos at LGBTQIA2S+ events like PGH Roller Derby 2024 and Pride in the Park 2024.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Yes

Suggested by Community: Yes

Invitation Bookshop

Address: 5125 Olympic Drive, Ste 104, Gig Harbor, WA 98335

URL: <https://www.invitationbookshop.com>

Invitation Bookstore is dedicated to fostering a love for reading within the community. They provide a carefully curated selection of books, host engaging events, and offer a cozy atmosphere where everyone can find their next great read. Invitation Bookstore is one of the sponsors of Gig Harbor Pride in the Park 2024.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not Yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

Tides Tavern

Address: 2925 Harborview Drive, Gig Harbor, WA 98335

URL: <https://tidestavern.com>

Located in Gig Harbor, Tides Tavern is a beloved local spot offering a warm, welcoming atmosphere and mouth-watering dishes. Whether you're a seafood lover or just looking for a great place to unwind, Tides Tavern has something for everyone. Tides Tavern is one of the sponsors of PGH Pride in the Park 2024.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not Yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

Gig Harbor Gondola

URL: <https://gigharborgondola.com>

Gig Harbor Gondola provides private, authentic Venetian gondola rides through the beautiful waters of Gig Harbor. It's a perfect way to celebrate special occasions or simply enjoy a peaceful journey on the water. Gig Harbor Gondola is one of the sponsor of PGH Pride in the Park 2024.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

Better Properties - The Siler Team

URL: <https://silersellshomes.com>

Jessica and Todd Siler are dedicated to making real estate a breeze for their clients. Whether you're looking to buy, sell, or just need advice, they provide top-notch service and support every step of the way. Their commitment to the community is evident through their involvement in local events and their passion for helping clients find the perfect home.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

Madrona Cafe

Address: 15607 Olson Dr NW, Key Center, WA 98349

URL: <https://www.facebook.com/p/Madrona-Cafe-100064347241832/>

Madrona Cafe in Key Center is a charming eatery known for its cozy atmosphere and delicious, locally-sourced meals. They offer a diverse menu featuring breakfast, lunch, and dinner options, all crafted with fresh ingredients. The cafe is a beloved spot for both locals and visitors, providing a welcoming space to enjoy great food and friendly service.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

Artondale Farm

Address: 5925 Artondale Dr NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98335

URL: <https://artondalefarm.square.site/>

Local farm store is open Friday through Sunday from 11am-5pm beginning the first weekend in April and running through Christmas Eve. They have produce starters and homemade goodies, including some pride merchandise.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

Ethereal Arts Northwest

Address: 3201 Jahn Ave, Suite 104, Gig Harbor

URL: <https://www.etherealartsnorthwest.com/>

Founded by acrobat and aerialist Katie Lynch, Ethereal Arts Northwest offers a range of circus arts classes for both kids and adults, focusing on proper technique and form. Their performances are a stunning display of strength, grace, and creativity, perfect for inspiring and entertaining audiences of all ages. Ethereal Arts NW performed at the Gig Harbor Pride in the Park 2023 and 2024.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

Nails by Kissy

Address: 2703 Jahn Ave NW Suite #C9, Gig Harbor, WA 98335

URL: <https://www.vagaro.com/nailsbykissi>

Nails By Kissi is a private salon suite located in Gig Harbor. Services include (but aren't limited to) Complete Acrylic Nail Services, Gel X Nail Extensions, Basic Manicures, Gel Manicures, Structured Gel (Builder Gel) Manicures, a variety of relaxing Pedicures, and more.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

Maitri Movement

URL: 3226 Harborview Drive, Suite 8 98332

<https://www.maitrimovement.com/>

Informed and welcoming manual therapies and massage for all bodies, as well as pre and post surgical support for folx in transition.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

Force 10 Property Group (Joey Soller and Stacie Palzer)

URL: <https://www.force10propertygroup.com>

Lesbian owned business. Joey specialty is commercial real estate transaction – including buying, selling, leasing, financing, or even developing real estate. Stacie's specialty is residential properties and bringing a measurable value to her client's investments.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

Paradox Reptiles and Exotics

700B Lebo Blvd, Bremerton, WA, United States, Washington

URL: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100078057337385>

LGBTQ+ owned. Sells exotic animals/reptiles and supplies. Environment is welcoming and safe for anyone in the LGBTQIA2S community+.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not yet

Suggested by Community: Yes

Calisto Collective

URL: <https://www.calistocollective.com/>

Calisto Collective is a woman-owned small business located in the Pacific Northwest, serving Pierce and Kitsap counties. At Calisto we strive to provide a safe space for those who identify as women to explore their relationships with self, nature, and other women.

Checked/Approved by Staff: Not yet

Suggested by Community: Yes