

WHO WE ARE

Rainbow Health Ontario (RHO) is a province-wide program that works to improve the health and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and queer people in Ontario through education, research, consultation and the development of healthy public policy.

We are based at Sherbourne Health Centre in downtown Toronto. Sherbourne has been providing comprehensive primary health programs and services to local LGBTQ communities since 2003 and frequently provides consultation and expertise on LGBTQ health issues.



PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US AT:

Rainbow Health Ontario

Sherbourne Health Centre
333 Sherbourne Street
Toronto, ON M5A 2S5

info@rainbowhealthontario.ca
416-324-4100

To learn more, please visit:
www.RainbowHealthOntario.ca

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Rainbow Health Ontario
Santé arc-en-ciel Ontario

Because LGBTQ health matters

Information & Consultation

Education & Training

Research & Policy

Rainbow Health Ontario is a province-wide program designed to improve access to services and to promote the health of Ontario's lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and queer (LGBTQ) communities.

www.RainbowHealthOntario.ca

WHAT WE DO

Although much has changed, the needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and queer (LGBTQ) people are often overlooked in our health and social service systems.

Rainbow Health Ontario (RHO) is a capacity building program funded by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. RHO provides knowledge and expertise to support inclusive planning, policy and research activities, and to promote responsive, evidence-based care for diverse LGBTQ people.

We offer services in English and French to health and social service providers, researchers, policy and decision makers, and community organizations throughout the province.



Information & Consultation

- Host a comprehensive website featuring LGBTQ health information, news, events, and directories
- Consult with health and social service providers, government and community on programs, organizational policies, clinical standards and communications materials
- Support local community-based health promotion strategies
- Create materials, e.g. brochures, protocols and fact sheets that address LGBTQ health issues

Education & Training

- Train health and social service providers in LGBTQ health care
- Partner with universities, colleges and licensing bodies to develop curriculum materials and increase competence among service providers
- Deliver specialized clinical training in trans health care
- Host the only LGBTQ health conference in Canada

Research & Policy

- Partner with researchers and policy makers to gather LGBTQ health data and fill gaps in research
- Promote the use of existing LGBTQ health research to develop evidence-based practice and informed public policy
- Host a directory of researchers from across Canada

WHY IS RHO NEEDED?

- There is no other centralized resource for trusted information, news, events, services or best practices regarding LGBTQ health and wellness
- Many organizations are unaware of LGBTQ service users or are unsure how to tailor their programs to make them welcoming
- Very few health and social service providers have received education to help them work with diverse LGBTQ people across the life span
- Public health agencies require community engagement expertise to develop health promotion campaigns that target specific LGBTQ issues or communities
- Professional schools need evidence-based research to develop curricula that are more inclusive of LGBTQ populations
- Many health care providers are uncomfortable when caring for LGBTQ people and uninformed about specific health care issues
- Many LGBTQ people have had negative experiences – they may be reluctant to come out to their health care providers, or avoid the health care system, resulting in later diagnoses and more serious conditions