March 31, 2021 marks Carolina's fourth-annual day of giving.

Though we have been working remotely over the last year, we have still been providing vital educational and direct support programs to the Carolina community. Your participation will enable us to continue conducting educational presentations and offering direct support to students, faculty, and staff at Carolina.

Since Fall 2019, we have operated entirely on donor contributions. During that time, we educated 4,407 people through our Safe Zone, LGBTQ 101, and other educational programs and provided community connections for 2,416 social program attendees. In Fall 2021, we saw 162 and 188 attendees respectively at new virtual programs Queer FallFest [1] and Queer MiniCon [2]. As we prepare to celebrate Pride Week at Carolina virtually, join us as a partner in this work on Give UNC Day by donating at giveunc.unc.edu/school-unit/lgbtq/ [3].

Our programming budget comes from private donations.

The work of the LGBTQ Center to create a safe and inclusive campus environment would not be possible without our donors. Your generosity and support is greatly appreciated. Your contributions of time, knowledge, money, and resources allow us to continue our efforts to ensure that all people at UNC-Chapel Hill are treated equitably.
Impact Examples for Varying Gift Amounts

Giving makes everything we do for students, faculty, staff, and the local community possible. Here are a few examples:

- $30 supports one social event for LGBTIQA+ faculty and staff to meet one another and build community.
- $50 compensates the facilitator for one evening of Trans Talk Tuesday - a peer discussion group for transgender and gender-questioning people.
- $75 supports one “Center After Dark” social event for undergraduate students to meet one another, build community, and access Center resources.
- $100 contribute toward one day of educating and community-building programming on a “visibility day” focusing on Bisexuality, Asexuality, or another identity.
- $500 provides one Safe Zone training for a nonprofit or small non-campus organization that would otherwise not be able to afford it.
- $1000 helps sponsor a collaborative program with student organizations and other University departments, such as Pride Week, Gender Week, or World AIDS Day.
- $5000 helps sponsor a signature event such as Lavender Graduation, or bring a speaker or musician to campus for National Coming Out Day or another observance.

How Your Support Looks "On the Ground"

Connecting to Support, and Resources

The LGBTQ Center itself is housed in a small office suite with a common area where campus and community members can relax, study, and chat with friends. We keep easily accessible snacks and personal items for convenience and to support housing and food insecure members of our community, especially those who fear being discriminated against for their gender expression at shelters and food pantries. We maintain a curated collection of resources from around campus and the Triangle, connecting visitors to local resources including affirming substance use recovery, health care resources, discussion groups, clubs, and organizations.

Give to help us continue connecting our community to needed resources.
Building Community and Resilience

Undergraduate students gather at the Center or online via Zoom for monthly socials and Pride and Awareness events, where they play board games, watch movies, or make crafts while forming and strengthening friendships that become part of their care networks and connect them to opportunities around campus. Students also use the Center to hold club and organization meetings, and to host social events celebrating pride and visibility days.

Graduate and Professional students meet up at a local restaurant or on Zoom a few times each month to reconnect, visit with and meet friends outside of their programs, and share strategies for managing their workload while often isolated as one of very few LGBTIQA+ students in their cohorts. This time to decompress and relate to people with similar lived experiences is vital to success in post-graduate education and often helps inform participants' research and knowledge of the resources available to them.

Once per month, we invite LGBTIQA+ faculty and staff to connect with one another across departments, disciplines, and affiliations. We provide a space to talk about how policies are impacting their lives and work, get to know one another, and form relationships that sustain the work they do to improve the lives of North Carolinians on and off campus.

Give so that LGBTIQA+ students, faculty, and staff have opportunities to gather and build strong, sustaining, connections.

Fostering Affirming Self-Discovery

The Center is home to a library of over 1,000 holdings. Most of our holdings are donated books including LGBTIQA+ focused research, history, novels, poetry, advice, and more. Our library offers a place where students who aren't yet comfortable exploring these topics can browse in relative privacy and know that anyone around to notice what they check out is not passing judgement. Some students come to us because a book was assigned by their instructor, and the main library has run out of copies. Once here, they meet professional staff and student workers who are eager to help them find what they need and often end up perusing the rest of our collection for leisure reading. Faculty and staff check out books to inform their affirming classroom practices, assist with supporting students, and for personal enjoyment.

Give to help us cultivate an up-to-date library where LGBTIQA+ campus members of all races, ethnicities, abilities, and interests can find themselves reflected.
Educating a More Inclusive Campus

Safe Zone Allyship training [9] is our most popular program with nearly 1200 trainees in the 2019-2020 academic year. This program allows anyone on campus and in nearby communities to learn fundamental terminology, concepts, and strategies to affirm people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions. We offer four hour long foundational trainings - one that is suitable for anyone and another geared towards Health Care providers but open to all. The curriculum for Safe Zone is continually growing and changing as terminology and conceptualization of certain identities have evolved, and with input from trainees who hold some of the marginalized identities we are seeking to help others understand. We have added continuing education trainings on Transgender and Nonbinary identities and Intersex identities and communities in the last year to deepen trainees understanding of these communities and more effectively advocate for equitable campus policies and practices within their spheres of influence.

Give to help us continue developing a network of informed campus and community members of all identities with the tools to disrupt heteronormativity and cissexism.

Source URL: https://lgbtq.unc.edu/giving

Links
[3] https://giveunc.unc.edu/school-unit/lgbtq/
[4] https://giving.unc.edu/gift/custom/?p=saff&amp;f=606250
[8] https://lgbtq.unc.edu/resources/lgbtq-center-library