

Research Guides



SAFE PLACE

WHAT IS A SAFE PLACE?

A Safe Place is a place for people of diverse backgrounds and identities to gather in community with one another. In this case, our aim, in conjunction with the Orange County Sheriff's Office, is to create a place where people in the LGBTQ Community feel welcomed and accepted. For the library, this means bringing our policy of safety and inclusion out of the fine print and into the bold print. We created this guide to assist victims of a bias crime find the resources they need in an emergency situation.

WHAT IS A BIAS CRIME?

As defined by the Orange County Sheriff's Office, a bias crime is a criminal act committed due to bigotry toward the victim's identity of lifestyle.

A bias incident falls under three categories:

- 1) Malicious Harassment—the reason the suspect targeted the victim was based on the suspect's belief about the victim's identity
- 2) Crimes with Bias Elements—during the commission of any crime, bias comments were made
- 3) Non-Criminal Bias Incidents—offensive or derogatory language that may fall under the category of free speech

According to Florida law, every citizen is a mandated reporter, which means that if you suspect a person to be the victim of abuse or neglect, you are obligated to report this to law enforcement.

The following entities and businesses are vetted as LGBTQ-owned or LGBTQ-friendly. They offer helpful services to persons experiencing hardship due to being a member of the LGBTQ Community.

RESOURCES: HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Two Spirit Health Services (321) 800-2922

An LGBTQ-owned and -operated service that offers medical services, both physical and mental, for LGBTQ patients, including those on disability or without insurance.

801 N. Magnolia Ave. Suite 402, Orlando, FL. 32803

Mon-Fri.....8:30am-4:00pm

<https://twospirithealth.org>

Miracle of Love (407) 843-1760

A corporation working to provide HIV/AIDS prevention and care.

741 W. Colonial Dr. Orlando, FL 32804

Mon-Fri.....8:30am-5pm

<http://miracleofloveinc.org/>

Corrine Drive Counseling Center (407) 601-3805

Specializes in providing quality mental health therapy to members of the LGBTQ Community.

3222 Corrine Dr. Suites A, J, K, L, Orlando, FL 32803

Hours vary by counselor

<https://www.corrinedrivecounselingcenter.com>

Orlando Immunology Center (407) 647-3960

A medical agency that offers HIV/AIDS prevention and care.

1707 N. Mills Ave. Orlando, FL 32803

Mon-Thurs.....7am-5pm

Fri.....7am-4pm

<https://oicorlando.com>

Hope and Help (407) 645-2577

An organization dedicated to offering medical care, case management, and HIV prevention classes, as well as a food bank (for patients only), to members of the LGBTQ Community.

4122 Metric Drive Suite 800 Winter Park, FL 32792

Mon-Fri.....8am-5pm

<https://www.hopeandhelp.org>

RESOURCES: FOOD

Joy MCC (Metropolitan Community Church) (407) 894-1081

A Christian church dedicated to offering faith and family to LGBTQ individuals as well as providing a food bank.

2351 S. Ferncreek Ave. Orlando, FL 32806

Tues & Thurs.....10am-2pm

<https://www.joymcc.com/food-bank>

RESOURCES: EMERGENCY SHELTER

Zebra Coalition (407) 228-1446, option 2

An organization dedicated to providing services to homeless LGBTQ youth, including a youth crisis hotline, food and clothing, medical resources, mental health counseling, continuing education, and aftercare.

911 N. Mills Ave. Orlando, FL 32803

Mon-Fri.....10am-6pm

<https://www.zebrayouth.org>

Harbor House (407) 886-2244

A program designed to eliminate domestic violence by providing safe shelter, advocacy, and counseling to women and children who have experienced family violence.

P.O. Box 680748 (Location is confidential)

Mon-Fri.....9am-5pm

<https://www.harborhousefl.com>

RESOURCES: EDUCATION/AWARENESS

Impulse Orlando (407) 476-7401

An international organization working to raise awareness of AIDS-prevention through its engagement events partnered with local health centers.

Email: impulse.orlando@impulsegrp.org

<http://www.impulseorlando.org>

Orlando Youth Alliance (407) 244-1222

A group that provides a place for LGBTQ and Allied youth to meet and connect

Email: info@orlandoyouthalliance.org

P.O. Box 536944

<http://orlandoyouthalliance.org>

HRC Orlando—an organization that works to secure basic equal rights for LGBTQ people at home, at work, and in the community.

<https://www.hrc.org/mei/search/florida/orlando>

RESOURCES: EMPLOYMENT

The Pride Chamber (formerly MBA Orlando) (321) 800-3946

A group striving to recognize, promote, and improve businesses owned and operated by members of the LGBTQ Community.

5003 Old Cheney Hwy. Orlando, 32807

<https://thepridechamber.org/>