

LGBTQ+ Family Resources

If you are interested in having your organization listed or have a revision to an existing listing, please contact us at mail@centeronhalsted.org

Resources for Finding Community with Other LGBTQ Families:

[Camp Out Family Camp](#)

CampOut Family Camp is a safe, welcoming space for LGBTQ+ families to create lifelong memories and experience the joy of camp together. Over four fun-filled days, you'll enjoy classic camp traditions, exciting activities, and special moments of connection. Unplug from everyday life and bond with other families while reconnecting with your own. From campfires and carnivals to our famous obstacle relay, each evening features a unique program that brings everyone together for laughter, adventure, and community.

[OPALGA+](#)

Established in 1989, OPALGA+ is one of the largest LGBTQ+ membership organizations in Illinois. Their diverse membership includes individuals and families in Chicago's near-west suburbs, Chicago proper and beyond. Members and non-members are welcome at our LGBTQIA+ events. While OPALGA+ offers a wide range of events and activities, one specific offering is monthly family play dates during the summer months.

[Kin Folk Chi](#)

Kin Folk Chi is a group focused on building queer family community in Chicago through potlucks, playdates, parent nights, and village vibes.

Resources Focused on Supporting LGBTQ Parents:

[Family Equality](#)

Founded in 1979 at the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, Family Equality has spent more than four decades ensuring that everyone has the freedom to find, form, and sustain their families by advancing equality for the LGBTQ+ community, providing resources for families at all stages, and creating community through our in-person and virtual events.

[Our Family Coalition](#)

OFC began when two Bay Area grassroots community-based organizations merged in the late 1990s. We've grown over the years to become the leading LGBTQ+ family advocacy agency in the state, and one of the few such organizations of this size nation-wide. Individual families continue to be our inspiration; collective liberation and well-being continues to be our mission. OFC's programs and services include Affinity Groups & Community Spaces, Education, Healthcare & Reproductive Referrals, and Policy & Advocacy.

[Postpartum Support International](#)

Postpartum Support International was founded to increase awareness among public and professional communities about the emotional changes that women experience during pregnancy and postpartum. In addition to other resources, they run a number of free online support groups including a Queer and Trans Parents Support Group.

[Rainbow Families](#)

Rainbow Families supports, educates and connects lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) families, parents and prospective parents by offering a wide variety of education programs, support groups, opportunities to connect and more. Rainbow Families is a volunteer led non-profit organization supported by members, community sponsors, private and public grants and foundations.

Resources Focused on Supporting Children of LGBTQ Parents:

[COLAGE](#)

COLAGE was founded in 1990 with the goal of connecting children of LGBTQ parents with each other. As the ways queer families are built has evolved, so has COLAGE. Today, COLAGE stands as the only national organization dedicated to the empowerment of youth in LGBTQ+ families.

Resources Focused on Supporting Parents of LGBTQ Children:

[PFLAG Council of Northern Illinois](#)

PFLAG is the nation's largest organization dedicated to supporting, educating, and advocating for LGBTQ+ people and those who love them. PFLAG Council of Northern Illinois is a coalition of 18 PFLAG chapters in the state. You can find more information about the individual chapters on their website.

[Pinwheels](#)

Pinwheels is a network of families embracing their children's and teens gender creativity in a kind and loving manner. Our support group focuses on providing a monthly meeting place for parents to connect with other families by sharing information and experiences.

Family Focused Legal Resources:

[Connecting Rainbows](#)

Connecting Rainbows connects LGBTQ+ families with attorneys and fertility specialists all over the US and Canada to make it easy to start, expand, and protect your family. Their experts are all selected for their knowledge, advocacy, and compassion, so you can feel comfortable starting these – sometimes challenging – conversations in a welcoming, judgment-free environment. They also provide a dynamic, ever-growing library of resources, interviews, and blogs to help you understand and navigate these complicated and important topics.

[IL Pride Connect](#)

IL Pride Connect is a resource hub for LGBTQ people in Illinois. They also maintain a legal hotline to assist LGBTQ people facing a variety of legal issues.

Resources for Building Families:

[Adoption Center of Illinois](#)

Adoption Center of Illinois is an adoption agency that moves beyond the idea of “open” or “closed” and instead advocates for a new approach, where two families become one and create an Extended Family Network. They also offer therapy and post adoption services.

[Chicago Women's Health Center's Alternative Insemination Program](#)

In 1983, CWHC started the first Alternative Insemination (AI) Program in the Midwest for lesbians, bisexual and queer couples, single women of any sexual orientation, and trans people. Since then, CWHC has offered sensitive health care and emotional support throughout this intimate process. They provide access to a variety of resources to help with decisions about health care and family. Their services include known donor consults, instruction and on-call support to do at-home inseminations, in-office intrauterine inseminations, and an AI Peer Support Group.

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[The Cradle](#)

Since opening in 1923, The Cradle has facilitated more than 16,000 domestic and international adoptions and has been at the forefront of open adoption, African American infant adoption and placements with LGBTQ+ identifying families.

[Gay Parents To Be](#)

Gay Parents To Be is the leading international fertility and family-building resource serving the LGBTQIA+ community. In partnership with East Coast-based fertility practice Illume Fertility, we offer a full suite of family-building services that help you explore your options and navigate your chosen pathway to parenthood. Gay Parents To Be is a single-source destination with a trusted partner network, including surrogacy agencies, egg donor banks, and reproductive attorneys.

[Men Having Babies](#)

Men Having Babies, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that started in New York City as a peer support network for biological gay fathers and fathers-to-be, offering monthly workshops and an annual seminar. It has since expanded its locations and offerings, with a focus on education, advocacy, and affordability for prospective parents who are gay, trans, queer, or bisexual men.

[RTZ Hope](#)

RTZ HOPE is a community of bereaved parents, families, and providers offering inclusive resources and holistic support for anyone whose life has been touched by loss, including infertility, secondary infertility, miscarriage, ending a wanted pregnancy, stillbirth, infant or toddler death, loss through surrogacy or failed adoption. They offer programming specifically focused on the LGBTQ community.