



Midwest Pride FAQs: General Information

What is Midwest Pride: United in Community?

Midwest Pride: United in Community is a dynamic three-day convening that brings together LGBTQ+ organizations, leaders, and advocates from across the Midwest. The event is designed to foster collaboration, networking, and shared learning, focusing on addressing key challenges, developing strategic solutions, and strengthening regional partnerships.

When and where is the event taking place?

The convening will take place from **April 17-19, 2025**, at **Center on Halsted**, located at **3656 N. Halsted, Chicago, IL 60613**.

Who should attend this event?

This event welcomes LGBTQ+ leaders, managers, nonprofit professionals, corporate partners, board members, community advocates, students, and anyone committed to advancing LGBTQ+ equity and inclusion across the Midwest.

What is the cost to attend?

The registration fee is **\$350 per participant**, which includes access to all sessions, networking events, and meals.

What is included in the registration fee?

Your registration fee covers participation in:

- All sessions, panel discussions, and affinity spaces
- Meals, including breakfast, lunch and refreshments
- Social events, including the welcome reception and Day 2 networking event



Registration and Participation

How do I register for the convening?

Registration opens on **February 3, 2025**. You can register online via the event page (link to be provided). Early registration is encouraged as space is limited. Once payment is completed, you will receive a link to select your preferred sessions.

Are scholarships or financial assistance available?

Yes, a limited number of scholarships will be available to ensure accessibility. To be considered, please email pryan@centeronhalsted.org for more details.

Can I volunteer at the event?

Absolutely! Volunteers play a vital role in event logistics, hospitality, and coordination. Volunteers will receive a discounted registration rate. Volunteer sign-up will be available once registration opens.

What is the registration deadline?

The final deadline to register is **March 17, 2025**, but early registration is highly recommended as space is limited.

What if I need to cancel my registration?

Cancellations made before **April 1, 2025**, will receive a full refund minus a processing fee. No refunds will be issued after this date, but registrations can be transferred to another participant.

Programming and Sessions

What types of sessions will be offered?



The convening will include:

- **Content Sessions:** Covering fundraising, policy/advocacy, youth programming, organizational strategy, and gender-affirming care.
- **Professional Development Sessions:** Focused on leadership, DEIB in practice, personal branding, strategic communications, and work-life balance.

How are the sessions structured?

Sessions are designed to be interactive, with expert presentations followed by collaborative discussions, group activities, and problem-solving exercises.

Can I present or facilitate a session?

Yes! We are accepting proposals for facilitators. Facilitators will receive an honorarium and discounted registration. Submit your proposal <https://form.jotform.com/250207327199155>.

Are there affinity spaces available?

Yes, we will offer dedicated affinity spaces for BIPOC individuals, rural communities, trans/nonbinary participants, and youth-serving professionals to foster connection and dialogue.

Travel and Accommodations

Are there recommended hotels nearby?

Yes, discounted room blocks are available at **The Westin Chicago Downtown** and **Best Western Hawthorne Terrace**. Booking links will be provided upon registration.

What are the transportation options?



Center on Halsted is easily accessible via public transportation, including the CTA Red, Brown, and Purple lines. Parking is available in nearby lots and garages.

Is there an airport shuttle service?

While no official shuttle is provided, public transit and ride-share services are available from both O'Hare and Midway airports.

Accessibility and Inclusion

Is the venue ADA accessible?

Yes, Center on Halsted is fully ADA-compliant, with elevators, accessible and gender-neutral restrooms, and seating accommodations.

What accessibility accommodations are available?

We are committed to making this event accessible to all. Accommodations such as ASL interpretation, large-print materials, and sensory-friendly spaces can be requested during registration.

Will meals accommodate dietary restrictions?

Yes, we will provide vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free meal options. Please indicate any dietary restrictions during registration.

Sponsorship and Partnership

How can my organization become a sponsor?

Sponsorship opportunities are available at various levels. For more information, please contact Mitchell Kraemer, Corporate Relations Officer, at mkraemer@centeronhalsted.org.



Can I host a vendor/resource table at the event?

Yes, vendor opportunities are available for LGBTQ+ businesses and organizations. Vendor rates are:

- **\$500 for for-profit businesses**
- **\$250 for non-profits**

Vendor tables will be featured in the **Midwest Pride Community Lounge** and during social events.