

LGBTQ+ Persons and the Center for Health and Hope

The Center's Commitment

The mission of the Center is to support and advocate for persons infected and affected by HIV and AIDS in the world through programs of education, prevention, care and treatment.

- Integral to achieving this purpose is opposing stigma and discrimination in every form.
- Persons in the LGBTQ+ community have been disproportionately impacted by HIV and AIDS around the globe, and the Center seeks to stand in solidarity with the LGBTQ+ community in a quest for equality, justice, care and human rights.



The Center's Policies

To receive a grant from the Center, persons and agencies must agree in writing they will not discriminate on the basis of age, race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, caste, ancestry, creed, physical or mental ability (including HIV status), gender or marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.



The Center's Programs & Projects

Past Center programs include:

- Colorado "in person" seminars and Zoom Webinars educating on what it means to be a transgender person, plus LGBTQ+ forums and dialogues in **Kenya, Rwanda, India, & Indonesia**.
- In **Rwanda**, The Center financially sponsors a non-profit organization designed to promote inclusiveness in church and society. Together the two organizations have supported human rights forums in Rwanda.
- In **Rwanda**, the Center supports three income generating projects, employing persons living with HIV and persons from the LGBTQ+ community: a hair salon, a sewing center, and a brick-making project.
- In **Burundi** the Center has provided financial assistance to lesbians who have been raped by persons violently claiming to change their sexual orientation. Also assistance to lesbians who have been jailed because of their sexual orientation.
- Various economic employment programs requested by MSM (men who have sex with men) in **India** have been funded.
- In **Kenya** the Center sponsors programs for LGBTQ+ persons, including funding office space, income producing projects, etc.
- Among the 40 **post-secondary students being sponsored** with full scholarships is a young gay journalist and a lesbian studying law.
- The Center's Executive Director and Board members have marched in Pride Parades in the United States and the Philippines.

