



Providing Aid to LGBTQ+ Forced Migrants

Detailed Reports:

Alessi, Edward J. and Sarilee Kahn. (2017, October 5). A framework for clinical practice with sexual and gender minority asylum seekers. In *Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity*. American Psychological Association. Available at: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/320250518_A_Framework_for_Clinical_Practice_With_Sexual_and_Gender_Minority_Asylum_Seekers

This article presents a framework for clinical psychological practice with LGBTQ+ asylum seekers which has three components: establishing safety and stability in treatment and in the environment, developing skills for managing the asylum claims process, and providing strategies for dealing with the challenges of resettlement.

Gottvall, Maria, Calle Brunell, Anna Eldebo, Frida Johansson Metso, Maria Jirwe, and Tommy Carlsson. (2022, 1 November). Post-migration psychosocial experiences and challenges amongst LGBTQ+ forced migrants: A meta-synthesis of qualitative reports. *Journal of Advanced Nursing* 79(1): 358-371. Available at: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jan.15480>

After arrival in the host country, forced migrants identifying as LGBTQ+ face numerous societal and personal challenges whilst being at risk of experiencing significant psychological distress. These migrants utilize a wide range of resources that may strengthen their resilience. Peer support stands out as a highly appreciated and promising resource.

Gruberg, Sharita, Caitlin Rooney, Ashe McGovern, Shabab Admed Mirza & Laura Durso. (2018). *Serving LGBTQ Immigrants and Building Welcoming Communities*. Center for American Progress. Available at: <https://www.americanprogress.org/article/serving-lgbtq-immigrants-building-welcoming-communities/>

This 2018 report documents services that are currently available to assist LGBTQ immigrants and facilitate their integration in six major U.S. cities: Chicago, New York, Miami, Houston, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C. It examines what social and legal services are available in the six selected cities, the approaches taken by service providers in working with LGBTQ immigrants, and the barriers LGBTQ immigrants face in accessing these services. In response to the research findings, the report offers recommendations to aid organizations and communities in their efforts to integrate LGBTQ immigrants in ways that meet their needs and help them to thrive.



Heartland Alliance International, Rainbow Welcome Initiative. (2013). *A Rainbow Retrospective: Reflecting on Best Practices and Successes from the Field*. Available at: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/368860884_A_Rainbow_Retrospective_Reflecting_on_best_practices_and_successes_from_the_field

This 2013 publication was produced as part of an initiative of the federal government to improve services provided to LGBTQ+ refugees and asylees. It provides best practices in the field, and includes a section focused on faith communities.

Immigration Equality. (n.d.). *Asylum manual*. Available at: <https://immigrationequality.org/asylum/asylum-manual/>

This online manual provides detailed technical information about the U.S. asylum system as it pertains to LGBTQ+ people.

McGuirk, Siobhan, Max Niedzwiecki, Temitope Oke & Anastasia Volkova. (2015). *Stronger Together, a Guide to Supporting LGBT Asylum Seekers*. LGBT Freedom and Asylum Network. Available at: https://assets2.hrc.org/files/assets/resources/LGBT_Asylum_Seekers_FINAL.pdf

This 2015 guide provides comprehensive information about how communities can best serve LGBTQ+ asylum seekers in the United States. It includes sections focused on an introduction to the field, program essentials, types of services, working with clients throughout the asylum process, ethical considerations, institutional models, and fundraising, as well as a directory of helpful organizations.

Niedzwiecki, Max. (2023). *We Shall Overcome: A Case Study of the LGBT Asylum Task Force, a Parish Ministry*. In Goździak, E.M., Main, I. (eds), *Debating Religion and Forced Migration Entanglements. Politics of Citizenship and Migration*. Palgrave Macmillan Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-23379-1_7

This chapter outlines the challenges faced by LGBTQ+ forced migrants, with a special focus on the role of religion in motivating persecution as well as assistance and resilience. It also provides a case study of the LGBT Asylum Task Force in Worcester, Massachusetts. The Task Force is a ministry of Hadwen Park Congregational Church, UCC, and is the only program in the U.S. dedicated to providing wrap-around services, including housing, to LGBTQ+ asylum seekers.



Organization for Refuge, Asylum, and Migration (ORAM). (2012). *Rainbow Bridges: A Community Guide to Rebuilding the Lives of LGBTI Refugees and Asylees*. Available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/524d3e9d4.html>

This 2012 manual seeks to improve the resettlement integration model used for LGBTQ+ refugees and asylees by providing community and faith-based groups with the knowledge they need to engage in this work.