



NEWRY RAINBOW COMMUNITY

The Newry Rainbow Community operate a dedicated Centre in Newry City Centre, run entirely by Volunteers, to provide drop-in, information and advice services to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (lgb&t) people, their families and friends. It is the only such Centre outside Belfast and Dublin on the East Coast of Ireland.

Services and support provided include; personal development courses; advocacy and referrals; signposting; befriending service; professional counselling; rapid HIV testing; sexual health advice; a Women's Group and social activities. The NRC also run a monthly "club / disco" night for LGB&T people in Newry City Centre. The NRC is committed to delivering social change for LGB&T people, promoting their health, well-being and life opportunities.

Having a dedicated lgb&t resource and drop-in Centre in Newry City has enabled the NRC to be pro-actively visible and to initiate a wide range of awareness-raising activities that have portrayed a positive image of our lgb&t community and have increased their confidence, inclusion and participation in wider civic and community life.

Although there are many on-going challenges facing the lgb&t community, things have really changed for the better in the lives of the lgb&t community in Newry compared to even just a few years ago, and that is in no small way due to the efforts of the NRC, which is making a real difference to people's lives and has gone a long way towards banishing the bad days of uncertainty, isolation, discrimination and fear that so many lgb&t people experienced and endured over recent decades.

Although the NRC couldn't claim all the credit for this in a society that is changing as a whole, there is no doubt that a dedicated and committed locally-based organisation can have real impact. The leadership and vision of the NRC is making a really positive and tangible contribution towards promoting the health, wellbeing and equality of lgb&t people in Newry City, and enhancing their quality of life and life opportunities.

The fact that Newry City was seen as a tolerant, safe place where a Pride parade and festival could be hosted was a significant factor in the achievement of Purple Flag status for Newry City.

The members of the Newry Rainbow Community are committed to taking an active role in helping to ensure that society is more inclusive, peaceful and fair. The NRC is working to promote tolerance, mutual trust and the upholding of fundamental human rights for all.

The Centre is located at 28a Monaghan Street (The Monaghan Street side of "Iceland") and the current opening hours are;

Tuesday: 7:00pm - 10:00pm; **Thursday:** 7:00pm - 10:00pm (Women's Group) **Friday:** 7:00pm - 10:00pm and **Saturday afternoon:** 2:00pm - 6:00pm

Please drop in and say hello and maybe have a chat & a coffee. We're here to listen and to help.

And we're always in need of new volunteers!

For more information go to www.gaynewry.com
e-mail us at info@gaynewry.com

Find us on fb by searching for **nrc**