

## Who We Are



 **BCI's Safe Zone Ally Program**  
*Sponsored by Bridgeway's*  
**INCLUSION, DIVERSITY, EQUITY & AWARENESS (I.D.E.A.) COMMITTEE**

### Statement of Purpose

The Bridgeway Center Inc. (BCI) **Safe Zone Ally Program** will serve to identify, enlist, and educate allies who will support, treat and advocate for the LGBTQIA+ community. This will be accomplished by training members of BCI staff and our community who wish to become more knowledgeable and accepting of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer, or questioning persons. Our goal is to reduce the incidence of heterosexism, transphobia and homophobia in our community through education, thereby promoting a safer and more open community for all.

## Where You Can Find Us

### Locations:

137 Hospital Drive  
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548  
(850)833-7500

299 Railroad Avenue  
Crestview, FL 32536  
(850)833-7500

### Website:

[www.BridgewayCenter.org](http://www.BridgewayCenter.org)

### Social Media:

[Facebook.com/  
BridgewayCenterInc](https://www.facebook.com/BridgewayCenterInc)

### Email:

[safezone@bridgeway.org](mailto:safezone@bridgeway.org)

### Phone:

(850)634-0039



## Mission Statement

*"To support, treat and advocate for individuals who are oppressed, marginalized, and silenced due to their sexual orientation and/or gender identity."*

## Why We Do What We Do

LGBTQIA+ adults are **more than twice as likely** as heterosexual adults to experience a mental health condition.

LGBTQIA+ people are at a **higher risk** than the general population for suicidal thoughts and suicide attempts.

High school students who identify as lesbian, gay, or bisexual are almost **five times as likely** to attempt suicide compared to their heterosexual peers.

**48%** of all **transgender** adults report that they have considered suicide in the past 12 months, compared to **4%** of the **overall US population**.

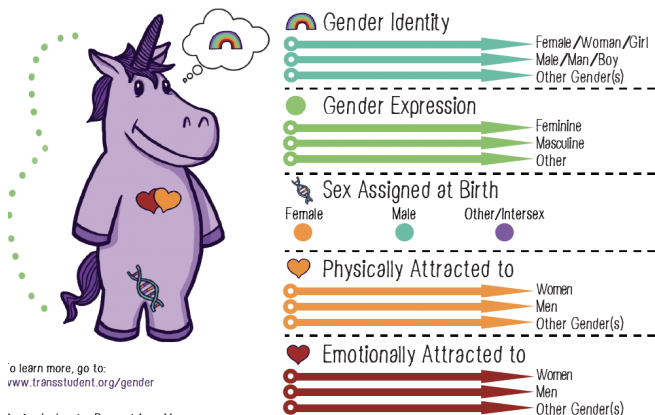
The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) found that **15%** of LGBTQIA+ adults **had an alcohol or drug use disorder** in the past years compared to **8%** of heterosexual adults.

Transgender and intersex youth are nearly **four times as likely** than their non-transgender peers to experience depression.

## What We Teach

### The Gender Unicorn

Graphic by:  
**TSER**  
Trans Student Educational Resources



🔴 Core Vocabulary

🟢 LGBTIQ+ Umbrella

🔵 Coming Out Guide

🟡 LGBTIQ+ Language Do's & Don'ts

🟠 And More!

## When and Where We Train

The **Safe Zone Ally** training classes for the community are based on demand. In other words, you tell us when you can train and we will be there! The training lasts around 2 hours depending on class size. Training is available on-site at our main Bridgeway locations or we can travel to you. Please contact us at any time to sign your group up for training!

## How You Can Learn More

Asexual Visibility and Education Network  
[www.asexuality.org](http://www.asexuality.org)

Bisexual.org  
[www.bisexual.org](http://www.bisexual.org)

Everyday Feminism  
[www.everydayfeminism.com](http://www.everydayfeminism.com)

It's Pronounced Metrosexual  
[www.itspronouncedmetrosexual.com](http://www.itspronouncedmetrosexual.com)

PFLAG  
<https://pflag.org/>

The Center  
<https://gaycenter.org/resources/>

TransWhat?  
[www.transwhat.org](http://www.transwhat.org)

Trans Student Educational Resources  
<https://transstudent.org/>

## Crisis Resources

### Trevor Hotline:

"If you're thinking about suicide, you deserve immediate help." Call 1-866-488-7386 or text "START" to 678-678 or chat at [thetrevorproject.org/get-help](http://thetrevorproject.org/get-help)

### Trans Lifeline:

"A peer support service run by trans people, for trans and questioning callers." Call 1-877-565-8860 (United States) or 1-877-330-6366 (Canada)