



Center Global

DC's LGBTI Asylum Network

About Center Global

Due to the oppressive anti-LGBTI laws and social cultures in nearly 80 countries around the world, the United States is a frequent destination for LGBTI individuals fleeing persecution in their home countries to seek protection of a new and safer life. We as members of the LGBTI community in the U.S. have a duty to help provide safe passage for our brothers and sisters from other parts of the globe. It is to this end that Center Global, a program of the DC Center for the LGBT Community, was formed.

Core Program Objectives

- Create a welcoming and an enabling environment in the DC area for LGBTI asylum seekers;
- Generate funds to help support LGBTI asylum seekers – filling the gap in existing support services; and
- Raise awareness within the community about the ongoing human rights situation of LGBTI people being persecuted in other countries.

Activities and Accomplishments

Since its establishment in 2012, Center Global has provided direct assistance and services to more than 65 individuals from Burundi, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Mauritania, Nigeria, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, El Salvador, Jamaica, Venezuela, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Maldives, Pakistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Serbia, Russia, and Ukraine, who are now in various stages of the asylum process. This has included guidance regarding the legal process, coordinating housing assistance, and providing limited financial support to these vulnerable individuals.

- The Center Global Resource Team is developing a comprehensive Resource Directory of local service programs that provide LGBT friendly services to asylum seekers within the metropolitan area.
- Working in partnership with a volunteer social worker, a legal advisor and other community organizations, Center Global has the resources to help guide asylum seekers through the immigration process.
- As part of our community awareness efforts, Center Global has invited resource experts to its monthly meetings to learn about current asylum/immigration issues, sponsored three Town Hall Meetings including one in conjunction with Capital Pride, and organized a community forum on “Russian LGBT Equality Issues.” Additional events are planned for the future.

For further information or to make a donation, visit www.thedccenter.org/programs_global.html; or contact us at contact@thedccenter.org or 1-202-682-2245.



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