Celebrating Over 40 years of Fighting for Lived Equality

our history

Equality North Carolina is the oldest statewide organization in America dedicated to securing rights and protections for the LGBTQ community. For over 40 years, we’ve fought tirelessly for folks from all walks of life who call themselves LGBTQ.

Today, we’ve expanded our areas of focus to include all North Carolinians marginalized by power and privilege. We’re doing this because LGBTQ people live and work in every community, whether they are people of color, immigrants, undocumented folks, people experiencing incarceration, homelessness and more, as LGBTQ people live and work within every community across our state.

We all live complex lives and our struggles are interconnected. We invite you to join us as we fight for our collective liberation and see yourself in the future of this movement.
we’re working to build a better world

At Equality North Carolina, we recognize how issues affecting the LGBTQ community influence all of our lives and experiences in a myriad of different ways. Through our work, we aim to center our community’s most vulnerable at the heart of all that we do.

Anti-Violence Work
Equality North Carolina believes that we should all be working towards building a world where nobody experiences violence because of who they are or who they love.

Protecting Youth
Young people truly are the future and we believe that we must protect and invest in the next generation in order to build the North Carolina that we all want to live in. We think that LGBTQ youth must be safeguarded from harmful practices like conversion therapy and given opportunities for empowerment and growth in order to become the leaders of tomorrow.

Non-Discrimination
Legislative non-discrimination protections are crucial to ensuring that LGBTQ people are free to work, play, love and exist in public space without the fear that they may face bias or discrimination because of their identity. There is no place for discrimination of any kind in our state.

Racial Justice
We believe that this country was built on the labor of people of color whose voices have been historically shut out or erased in the interests of upholding structural white supremacy — even within the LGBTQ movement itself. Equality NC is committed to honoring the legacy of our radical ancestors who laid the foundation for the larger equality movement today.

HIV/AIDS
Though we’ve come a long way from the AIDS crisis that wiped out a generation of artists, thought leaders and change makers — particularly communities of color — are still battling the HIV epidemic today. Harm reduction surrounding HIV/AIDS and ensuring that the communities most affected by the virus have the resources and support that they need is at the heart of the work of ENC.

“Together, we can change the culture of north carolina.”
Political Endorsements
It’s important to us that our friends and supporters make informed decisions when they walk into the voting booth. Each election cycle, our staff makes careful and meaningful choices surrounding who we decide to endorse as an organization. These endorsements are informed by an intersectional commitment to LGBTQ equality with an understanding of the differences within our community. We endorse candidates who are committed to social justice and to representing our interests through a mutual partnership.

Civic Engagement Efforts
Did you know that ENC has staff all across the state of North Carolina? We’re building out regional chapters in order to ensure that we’re reaching LGBTQ folks living in every corner of our state, and tailoring our work to meet their specific needs. From the mountains to the beach, LGBTQ people live in every corner of our state and it’s important that we all have our voices heard. Head to www.equalitync.org for more information.

Protect Our Youth NC
In 2019, ENC launched a campaign called Protect Our Youth NC to end conversion therapy in the state of North Carolina in partnership with Campaign for Southern Equality. This work with Protect Our Youth NC led to Gov. Roy Cooper signing an executive order that made NC the first state in the South to ban state funding of conversion therapy.

Rural Youth Empowerment (RYE) Fellowship
Our year-long Rural Youth Empowerment (RYE) Fellowship is a mentorship and training program for LGBTQ young people hailing from rural areas of North Carolina. ENC supports RYE Fellows in executing a social justice project that serves rural communities while developing leadership skills over the course of a year.
support equality today!

What we do together right now will determine the future of LGBTQ rights in our state. It’s that simple.

We need you now more than ever! Starting now, your support will help us build the grassroots organization it will take to bring equality home.

Make a donation to Equality NC today and build the grassroots organization it will take to bring Equality home.

First Name ____________________________
Last Name ______________________________
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Select your level of support

☐ $1,000 ☐ $500 ☐ $250 ☐ $100 ☐ $50 ☐ $35 ☐ Other $ ___________

☐ Equality NC ☐ Equality NC Foundation

*Donations made to Equality NC Foundation are tax-deductable.

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Or make your secure advocacy gift online at equalitync.org/action/donate

Send contributions to:

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