



show your love for the lesbian gay bi trans youth line

Love is a big part of what we're about, at the Youth Line; love for each other, for ourselves and in our work supporting the freedom to love who we choose. We hear from youth across the province and lots of our calls focus on love and relationships. We need your love now, to help maintain the important support services we provide to 6000 young people each year.

We've declared February Show Your Love month!

We're asking you to keep that loving feeling going past Valentine's Day and all month long and join us in supporting Ontario's queer and questioning youth. Are you hosting an event during February? A cocktail party? How about a dinner party? A games night? Ask your guests to show love to the Youth Line by making a donation that will go directly to making sure that queer and questioning youth know they're not alone.

Here are some ideas for how you can raise money at your party: ask guests to forget bringing over a bottle of wine and instead make a donation; plan a raffle; ask for a 'cover charge'; or set up a saucy kissing booth. The possibilities are endless, and any and all support is welcomed.

You pick the date, the donation amount and the event. We'll provide you with a host kit full of information about what we do, information for your guests, 'Show Your Love' e-invites, step-by-step instructions to help you put together an online 'Giving Page', and other goodies.

If you're feeling the love but not able to host an event we can help you set up an online Giving Page and a message that you can share with friends and family asking them to join you in supporting the Youth Line. All online donations will receive a receipt through Canada Helps.



about the youth line

what we do...

Since 1994, The Lesbian Gay Bi Trans Youth Line has been providing confidential, toll-free and non-judgmental peer-support phone line and online support for lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT) young people in Ontario.

Based in Toronto, the Youth Line produces significant and positive effects in the lives of these isolated youth. The Youth Line is the first initiative of its kind in Canada, and the only phone line for LGBT youth that provides service across Ontario. The Youth Line provides peer support, information and referrals to an under-served and vulnerable population.

For youth, both inside and outside Ontario's major metropolitan centres, services to meet their needs are conspicuously absent. These young people often feel isolated because of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity; the Youth Line plays a significant role in ending this isolation, and in many of Ontario's communities it is the only support available.

The Youth Line currently has over 60 volunteers, four full-time and one part-time staff. The phone lines are open 4:00 pm to 9:30 pm Sunday through Friday evenings. The Youth Line takes approximately 500 calls per month. We offer instant messaging services so youth can contact our volunteers electronically.

The Youth Line has had more than 70,000 client contacts since the Youth Line started letting LGBT youth across Ontario know that they are not alone!

why we do it...

"The Youth Line has provided a place for me to be myself. I feel secure and never wonder if people are evaluating my worth based on my sexuality. The staff and volunteers exude compassion and hope. Hope for a better today, tomorrow, and future for all LGBTQ youth"
– Luke Hazzard, age 22, Youth Line Intern

In 2009, lesbian, gay, bi, trans, 2-Spirited, intersex, queer and questioning youth still need the services of the Youth Line. Youth also want to give back to their community, to listen to other youth, to be there when someone calls or wants to chat on-line; youth still appreciate being respected and challenged in an organization where they feel safe and where they can grow with the organization. **We've been there for the youth of Ontario. We are here for youth of Ontario. And we'll continue to be there for youth in the years to come. We can't do it alone. We can do it together. Be our next champion.**

youthline.ca

