

# LGBTQIA+ Resource Guide

## Organizations founded by and for the LGBTQ+ community:

- Escape

- **Mission:** Our mission is to provide a sense of Escape for LGBTQI2+ Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Patients, Survivors, and Caregivers.
- **Offerings:** Escape provides virtual meetups, support groups, a private facebook group, resources, a blog, and highlights LGBTQI2+ cancer patient fundraisers for donating and sharing.
- **Location:** Based in the US

- Transgender Cancer Patient Project

- **Mission:** The main goal for this project will always be to support and provide community for fellow transgender cancer patients. We also seek to create and collaborate on community-led sources of education and activism in order to de-stigmatize patient experiences and de-gender healthcare at large.
- **Offerings:** On this website you can find trusted resources and groups, events we are attending, projects we're working on, trans cancer patient related fundraisers to share and donate to, and zines!
- **Location:** Based in US

- Queering Cancer

- **Mission:** To transform cancer care for the LGBTQ2+ community by improving research, resources, and support for patients, families, caregivers, and healthcare professionals.
- **Offerings:** Comprehensive and most extensive list of LGBTQ+ Cancer resources, blog, and community chats
- **Location:** Based in Canada

- Malecare

- **Mission:** Malecare improves the lives of people diagnosed with cancer, their families and communities by making health services safe, available, understandable and sustainable.
- **Offerings:** We provide technical assistance, training, and information, with a focus on practical solutions that improve services where resources are scarce. We believe that individuals have the right to make informed decisions about their health and to receive care that meets their needs. We focus on helping under-served communities such as African American men, LGBT people, and Latino men.
- **Location:** Based in the US



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- National LGBT Cancer Network

- **Mission:** The National LGBT Cancer Network works to improve the lives of LGBT cancer survivors and those at risk by:
  - educating the LGBT community about our increased cancer risks and the importance of screening and early detection;
  - training health care providers to offer more culturally-competent, safe and welcoming care; and
  - advocating for LGBT survivors in mainstream cancer organizations, the media and research.
- **Offerings:** resources for cancer care professionals, trainings, list of inclusive hospitals, support groups for the community
- **Location:** Based in the US

- Will Munro Fund

- **Mission:** The Will Munro Fund for Queer and Trans People Living with Cancer is dedicated to providing emergency financial assistance to LGBTQ2S people of all ages who are currently living with cancer in Ontario.
- **Location:** Ontario, Canada

## LGBTQ+ Cancer Media, Book, and Advocate Resources:

- Trans Dudes with Lady Cancer - Documentary

- **Description:** A short film documenting the journey of two transmasculine people, their family and communities, as they navigate breast cancer and ovarian cancer within the medical system. By Yee Won Chong and Brooks Nelson, Boxxo Productions

- Kimiko Does Cancer - A Graphic Memoir by Kimiko Tobimatsu

- **Description:** Kimiko Does Cancer tells the story of a young, queer, mixed-race woman's experience with the physical realities of breast cancer, but also the interpersonal - dealing with isolation from friends, dating while in menopause and talking about feelings with family.

Not one for pink ribbons or runs for the cure, Kimiko seeks connection within the cancer community while also critiquing the mainstream cancer narrative. Kimiko's story comes to life with stunning illustrations by Keet Geniza.

- The Cancer Journals - Audre Lorde

- First published over forty years ago, *The Cancer Journals* is a startling, powerful account of Audre Lorde's experience with breast cancer and mastectomy. Long



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before narratives explored the silences around illness and women's pain, Lorde questioned the rules of conformity for women's body images and supported the need to confront physical loss not hidden by prosthesis. Living as a "black, lesbian, mother, warrior, poet," Lorde heals and re-envisions herself on her own terms and offers her voice, grief, resistance, and courage to those dealing with their own diagnosis. Poetic and profoundly feminist, Lorde's testament gives visibility and strength to women with cancer to define themselves, and to transform their silence into language and action.

- Ericka Hart, MEd- Activist and Sexuality Educator

- **About:** A kinky, poly, cancer-warrior, activist and sexuality educator with a Master's of Education in Human Sexuality from Widener University, Ericka Hart has taught sexuality education for elementary aged youth to adults across New York City for over 10 years, including serving as a Peace Corps HIV/AIDs volunteer in Ethiopia from 2008-2010. Diagnosed with bilateral breast cancer in May 2014 at the age of 28, she realized that neither her identity as a queer black femme, nor her sex life as a survivor, was featured prominently in her treatment.

- Andrea Gibson - Poet, Writer, Activist, Cancer Survivor

- **About:** *You Better Be Lightning* by Andrea Gibson is a queer, political, and feminist collection guided by self-reflection. The poems range from close examination of the deeply personal to the vastness of the world, exploring the expansiveness of the human experience from love to illness, from space to climate change, and so much more in between. One of the most celebrated poets and performers of the last two decades, Andrea Gibson's trademark honesty and vulnerability are on full display in *You Better Be Lightning*, welcoming and inviting readers to be just as they are.

## Organizations with LGBTQ+ focused resources:

- Cactus Cancer Society

- **Mission:** Cactus Cancer Society's mission is to provide a safe space where young adults facing cancer can connect, cope, and thrive with one another in an online community through creativity and expression. Our vision is to end isolation among young adults facing cancer.
- **Offerings:** Pride Rainbow Hearts: June Art Workshop on June 15th, Pride Game Night on June 27th
- **Location:** Based in the US



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- Elephants and Tea

- **Mission:** Our mission is to build community and support for the AYA cancer community through wellness, storytelling, education, and research.
- **Offerings:** LGBTQIA+ community representation on their blog and in their quarterly publications
- **Location:** Based in the US

- Young Adult Cancer Canada

- **Mission:** Our mission is to support young adults living with, through, and beyond cancer. To be the connection to peers, a bridge out of isolation, and a source of inspiration. Every cancer, every stage, YACC's got your back.
- **Offerings:** YACC Chats: These chats are peer-led themed virtual conversations offered over Zoom by a team of YACC leaders.
  - "Out With Cancer" provides a safe space for 2SLGBTQIA+ people to connect with others diagnosed with cancer in a private, affirming, empowering online space. These sessions are indicated with a rainbow flag.
- **Location:** Based in Canada

- The Breasties

- **Mission:** The first all-inclusive nonprofit organization that creates community for survivors, previvors, thrivers, and carevivors, impacted by breast and gynecological cancers. we're on a mission to empower through connection, free events, and trusted resources, and to fund research for metastatic breast cancer.
- **Offerings:** Trans-inclusive LGBTQ+ Breast Cancer Support Group
- **Location:** Based in the US

- Imerman Angels

- **Mission:** To provide comfort and understanding for all cancer fighters, survivors, previvors and caregivers through a personalized, one-on-one connection with someone who has been there. We envision a world where cancer is not a solitary experience.
- **Offerings:** Peer-to-peer support. Currently in need of LGBTQ+ identifying mentors.
- **Location:** Based in the US

- Eve Appeal

- **Mission:** The leading UK national charity funding research and raising awareness into the five gynecological cancers – womb, ovarian, cervical, vulval and vaginal.
- **Offerings:** A nonbinary and transgender inclusive nurse line



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- **Location:** Based in the UK

## Articles Referenced in the 2023 LGBTQ+ Cancer Awareness Week:

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  - Theodore E. Schall, Jacob D. Moses Schall, Theodore E. and Moses, Jacob D., "Gender-Affirming Care for Cisgender People," Hastings Center Report 53, no. 3 (2023): 15–24. DOI: 10.1002/hast.1486
- Trans People and Cancer
  - Olivia Ashbee, Joshua Mira Goldberg Ashbee, Olivia, and Joshua Mira Goldberg. "Trans People and Cancer." Vancouver: Vancouver Coastal Health, Transcend Transgender Support & Education Society and Canadian Rainbow Health Coalition, February 2006.
- For Trans Men and Non-binary People, Cervical Screenings Aren't a Debate. They Can Be Life-saving
  - Vic Parsons Parsons, Vic. "Trans-Inclusive Cervical Screenings Aren't a Debate. They Can Be Life-Saving." PinkNews, October 9, 2021.
- A Cancer Screening Crisis For Transgender Patients
  - Bryn Nelson Nelson, B. (2019), A cancer screening crisis for transgender patients. Cancer Cytopathology, 127: 421-422.
- Troubling Blind Spots in Understanding Cancer Risks Among Transgender Patients
  - Bryn Nelson Nelson, B. (2019), Troubling blind spots in understanding cancer risks among transgender patients. Cancer Cytopathology, 127: 487-488.