



Connecting, Getting Support and LGBTIQQA+ Rights at Yooralla

The Customer Rights and Empowerment (CRE) team, and other staff at Yooralla who you feel comfortable to talk about your identity with, are there to help support you.

For example, they can help you to:

- Talk about things that matter to you or find others you can talk to
- Attend pride parades and LGBTIQQA+ events
- Talk about your LGBTIQQA+ related goals
- Join queer groups
- Access safe spaces in which to explore who you are.

Information continues on **3B**

Yooralla supports people with disability to learn about their sexuality and gender and to make decisions to grow in their identity and to be who they are. This includes people who might be LGBTIQQA+ but haven't had the opportunity or support to explore. We can support you to reach goals related to being a queer person and help you participate in the queer community as you choose.

'LGBTIQQA+' means Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer and Asexual people as a group. Often LGBTIQQA+ people use the word queer to describe themselves. However, LGBTIQQA+ people are all different. For support and to talk about this more, or make some links, contact Yooralla reception and ask to speak to the **Customer Rights and Empowerment (CRE) team**.

Contact 03 9666 4500

LGBTIQQA+ = Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer and Asexual.
Allies = People who support and/or advocate for LGBTIQQA+ people.

Tip – A great resource for people with disability and staff is **Our Rainbow Lives** by **Inclusion DesignLab** and **Rainbow Health Victoria**



Designed by LGBTIQQA+ staff, customers and allies at

yooralla
choosequality

inclusiondesignlab *i*

Discrimination

LGBTIQA+ people with disability can experience discrimination, bullying and harassment because of who they are. This is not OK. It is against the law and goes against a person's human rights. It can happen:

- when you are getting support from a disability organisation
- within a workplace
- in the community
- at events
- at home
- buying products and services

Standing up for your rights

Fortunately, there are many ways to get help if you experience discrimination. You can talk to staff at Yooralla. If you are not happy with the way Yooralla deals with this and/or would like to talk to someone outside Yooralla you can talk to:

- Disability legal support organisations or advocacy organisations
- Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission (VEOHRC)
- NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission

Empowerment and self-advocacy

Your voice should be at the centre of your supports. Staff at Yooralla can help support you to participate in groups such as Rainbow Rights.



Steph

Spectrum Intersections

Spectrum Intersections is a self-advocacy group for LGBTIQA+

neurodivergent* people, including autistic people.

www.spectrumintersections.org

*Neurodivergent means people whose brains work a little differently to the average person.

Rainbow Rights and Advocacy

Rainbow Rights are a self-advocacy group made up of LGBTIQA+ people with intellectual disability who help others by speaking up for their rights and raising awareness of LGBTIQA+ issues

www.rainbowrights.com.au



Your rights in the NDIS

You can contact the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission if you feel unhappy with your supports. It is your right to be supported to express your LGBTIQA+ identity. If you have a goal in your NDIS plan about being LGBTIQA+ and you feel it isn't being supported, you can contact the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission to make a complaint.

I am a Disability Support Worker, a student who studies Social Work and a footy player for a local club... Also, I identify as gay.. I want to support customers with accepting and understanding their own self-identity... Being a gay woman means that I can offer knowledge on gender and sexual identity and expression as well as shared LGBTQIA+ experiences and the issues we face that typically a non-LGBTIQA+ person would not have access to. This knowledge can help our customers but can also help educate other Yooralla staff on how to support customers who identify as an LGBTIQA+ person.