



HÁTTÉR

SUPPORT SOCIETY
FOR LGBT PEOPLE

OUR AIMS

Háttér Support Society for LGBT People (Háttér) is one of the largest and most active LGBT organizations in Hungary. Founded in 1995, its aims are to protect the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people and to reduce the fear and ignorance about homosexuality through better integration of LGBT people to the society at large.

Háttér works for these aims by calling attention to the problems faced by LGBT people; lobbying for legal change; providing support services; encouraging the self-organization of LGBT communities; and preserving and spreading LGBT heritage and culture.

OUR ACTIVITIES

INFORMATION AND COUNSELLING HOTLINE

Our information and counselling telephone hotline has been in operation since 1996. It is open to calls from LGBT people, their families, professionals or anyone interested in learning more about LGBT issues. Our trained volunteers answer calls every day from 18:00 to 23:00 at the **+36 1 329 33 80** phone number and **+36 80 505 605** toll-free phone number.

LEGAL AID

Our legal aid service is in operation since 2000 and consists of a network of partner lawyers with different fields of experience. The service focuses on cases of discrimination, harassment and abuse, but provides advice in any matters where the sexual orientation or gender identity of the person might be significant. The service is available free of charge and can be reached via our hotline or at the jogsegely@hatter.hu email address.

HIV/AIDS PREVENTION

Our HIV/AIDS prevention program focuses on awareness raising, counselling and research. We have published several brochures on STD prevention and the legal rights of HIV+ people and we have been distributing condoms at cost price since 2004 in LGBT bars and discotheques. We are involved in a long-term research project adapting the International **Social Network Study program**, and since 2007 we operate a **non-stop HIV counselling hotline**.

ADVOCACY

Our organization has taken an active role in lobbying for legal change to end the discrimination of LGBT people and families and to provide efficient legal responses to discrimination, harassment and abuse suffered by LGBT people. We regularly publish our position on bills

in preparation, participate in public hearings and working groups, and push for growing awareness of LGBT issues among policy makers. We have made significant contributions to the current legislation on equal treatment, hate crimes, registered partnership, adoption and gender recognition.

RESEARCH

Our organization has participated in several research projects that aim at providing a better understanding of the situation of LGBT people. In 2003-2004 we conducted research about the experience of trans people in healthcare and social services. In 2007 we cooperated with the Institute of Sociology of the Hungarian Academy of Science in the first quantitative survey of the situation of LGBT people in Hungary. We have also been involved in several international research projects on HIV/AIDS issues.

ARCHIVES

Our organization has a growing collection of books, journals, newspapers articles, audiovisual materials, as well as posters, brochures and other relics that document the history of the Hungarian LGBT movement. The archive is open to journalists, researchers and students, who can access the collection by appointment.

LGBT FESTIVAL

Our organization has taken an active part in organizing the yearly **LGBT Cultural and Film Festival** and the **Gay Pride March** that take place in Hungary since 1997. Since 2001 the festival has been organized by the **Rainbow Mission Foundation**, of which Háltér is a founding member. The website of the festival is available at

www.budapestpride.hu

NETWORKS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Our organization strives to cooperate with other human rights and LGBT NGOs both on the national and international level. We have been a member of the **International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association (ILGA)** since 1996, and hosted the General Meeting of ILGA-Europe in 2004 in Budapest. Háltér is among the founding members of the newly established umbrella organization, the **Hungarian LGBT Alliance**, as well as an active member of the **Hungarian Civil AIDS Forum** and the **Association of Nonprofit Human Services of Hungary**.



CONTACT:



Háttér Support Society for LGBT People

Postal address: Pf. 50, Budapest, Hungary, H-1554

Phone: +36 1 238-0046

Fax: +36 1 329-3380

Email: hatter@hatter.hu

Web: www.hatter.hu