

LGBT PROGRAM

CRLA is dedicated to increasing lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) rights in rural California by improving access to justice and expanding civic engagement opportunities for LGBT communities.

- Our innovative approach addresses the intersection of race, ethnicity and poverty within the advancement of rural LGBT rights.
- Our focus is safety, wellness and education equity for LGBT students and families.
- CRLA works with families, students, school districts, District Attorney's offices, housing authorities and local nonprofit organizations to achieve our goals.

CRLA's LGBT Program provides education and legal services through five projects:

SAFE SCHOOLS

CRLA developed a series of Rural Safe School Summits where parents and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) youth or LGBTQ perceived youth can learn about rights at school, and how to ensure those rights are being protected. We work

closely with experts on bullying, discrimination and family acceptance to work collaboratively with LGBTQ Youth and their parents throughout rural California to improve school climate and bring school policies into alignment with current laws.

OPEN COMMUNITIES

A community education and capacity building effort focusing on creating safe and equitable communities for rural LGBT people of color. CRLA is working with new and emerging LGBT centers in rural communities.

Our community outreach focuses on visibility, resources and rights to aid communities in creating more LGBTwelcoming cultures.

ANTI-VIOLENCE PROJECT

An anti-violence project that works with rural District Attorneys' offices, service providers, law enforcement and other government agencies to ensure LGBT victims, particularly people of color, are treated with respect and care. CRLA is partnering with rural service providers and the California State Attorney General's office to identity, and support LGBT victims of trafficking, as well as identify approaches to prevent trafficking.

PROYECTO PODEROSO

Proyecto Poderoso — Works to improve legal services for low-income, rural LGBT people by training legal service organizations to be welcoming, respectful and able to serve

low-income LGBT clients. A partnership with the National Center for Lesbian Rights, Proyecto Poderoso has helped to launch LGBT initiatives at legal aids across the country.



DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING AND PUBLIC SPACES

Equal Access Project — CRLA fghts for equality of LGBT people in employment, housing and access to public spaces. By offering on the ground support to rural LGBT communities and advocating on their behalf, CRLA is combating discrimination at a local,

state and federal level. CRLA continues to collaborate with United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, California Department Fair Employment and Housing.



Lisa Cisneros LGBT Program Director

Lisa Cisneros rejoins CRLA as the *LGBT Program Director*. Lisa oversees a statewide program that increases access to justice and supports civic engagement opportunities on behalf of rural, low-income lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) communities.

How can I learn more?

- Contact Lisa Cisneros: lcisneros@crla.org
- Attend a LGBT Salon
- Donate to CRLA's LGBT work

SUPPORT CRLA

Join us in the fight for justice

- Tell your friends and family about CRLA
- **Sign-up** for our Rural Justice Updates
- **Donate** online at **www.crla.org**

501 C(3) STATEMENT

Your contributions help CRLA provide outreach, community education and no-cost legal services to poor Californians and their families. CRLA is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. Your contribution is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Please consult your tax preparer for details. CRLA's tax identification number is: 95-2428657.

Get involved

- **Host** a CRLA house party or office luncheon
- Sponsor a local CRLA fundraising event
- **Volunteer** at one of our local offices
- Provide pro bono counsel
- **Underwrite** a CRLA fellowship
- Contact our Development Department to learn more: development@crla.org

