





# Who are we?

- COC Amsterdam is a volunteer organization structured as a local member association
- At this moment 170 volunteers are active, and we count around 1800 members
- Together with 19 other local associations in the Netherlands, we make up the Federation COC Netherlands
- COC Amsterdam organizes
  - meet-up & empowerment for several groups in the LGBT community
  - information and education in schools and work-settings
  - community and member events, debates and discussions
- We work with an internal code of conduct, a set of 'rules' for interaction. For some activities we ask a formal Certificate of Conduct for Natural Persons (VOG)



# Core values

## **Pro-active**

We take initiatives to reach our common and shared goals on a personal and social level

## **Visible**

We are visible and strong through cooperation within the Amsterdam society. Visibility through cooperation strengthens our impact

## **Inclusive / together**

COC Amsterdam is an inclusive movement of volunteers and supporters where a common goal is sought from personal motivation, involvement and responsibility.

## **Integral part of society**

We are grounded in the society of Amsterdam and act from this perspective.



# Our activities

- Advocacy & Safety
- Meet-up & Empowerment
- Information & Education
- Care & Well-being



# Advocacy & Safety

Addressing and working on sexual and gender diversity issues to be included municipal and organizational policies

Raising awareness of policy makers, managers and civil society for specific needs of LGBT+ and their need to address this

Working together with allies and supporters to realize safety, inclusiveness and adequate responses to violation of human / LGBTI rights and/or lack of LGBTI friendly and sensitive services and/or care



# Meet-up & Empowerment

## Reaching and mobilizing specific groups

- LGBT Youth 12-18 jaar => Young & Out
- LGBT with intellectual disabilities => Café Oké
- Bicultural LGBT => World café; TransUnited
- LGBT newcomers => Cocktail Buddy project; Cocktail Events
- LGBT Seniors => Senior café
- LGBT with autistic spectrum => AutiRoze café



# Information & Education

## Classroom presentations about homosexuality in Dutch schools

- ⇒ Schools in The Netherlands are obliged to cover the subject of homosexuality in their education
- ⇒ The presentations are led by lesbians, gays, bisexuals or transgenders, and give students the chance to confront their stereotypes.
- ⇒ Over 50 volunteers of COC Amsterdam organize around 600 presentations a year.



# Care & Well-being

## In general:

- ⇒ Promoting LGBT sensitive services and care, with a special focus on underserved and vulnerable LGBT (eg. Mokum Roze)
- ⇒ Providing information and advice (to best of our ability) to help LGBT in finding answers to their questions (pilot: Consultteam; Pink Card)
- ⇒ Seeking cooperation with LGBT and straight people (individuals, organizations and networks) to improve access to LGBT friendly and sensitive care & well-being

## For LGBT newcomers

- => Cocktail Amsterdam (buddy project & events)
- => Pink Card for LGBT newcomers
  - => Overview services
  - => Monitoring incidences





# Research

The Amsterdam Pink Panel is a cooperation between COC Amsterdam and the University of Amsterdam (UvA; Research Institute of Psychology).

The panel collects data on LGBT-relevant topics, such as safety, health, well-being

The questionnaire is open for everyone and is available in English

Share your opinion and sign up for the Amsterdam Pink Panel!

=> <http://app.uva.nl/> or [www.amsterdampinkpanel.nl](http://www.amsterdampinkpanel.nl)

Also on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/AmsterdamPinkPanel](http://www.facebook.com/AmsterdamPinkPanel)



# Activities for LGBT newcomers

- Cocktail buddy: Information by Rob Hermanussen
- Cocktail events: Information by Vanny Reyes
- Pink card project: update of progress



# Pink Card project for LGBT newcomers

Initiated in last September in the 1<sup>st</sup> Collaboration meeting of several Amsterdam-based organizations for LGBT newcomers.

## **Two project components:**

⇒ Making an overview of access to services & type of support

⇒ Monitoring incidences & act on these

⇒ Individual; around specific cases

⇒ Structural; addressing gaps in services & support

**1st Draft** of Pink Card Amsterdam available for review & validation

⇒ Check on information provided

⇒ Best way to publish

⇒ Print / online / layout

⇒ Rainbow App?

⇒ Cocktailonline.nl?



# Pink Card project for LGBT newcomers

## **Type of services included in the Pink Card so far:**

- ✓ Information & advice
- ✓ Support, advocacy & social activities
- ✓ Social activities by COC Amsterdam and/or COC Netherlands
- ✓ Buddy projects; social support by volunteers
- ✓ Sex education, prevention STD & STD controls & vaccinations (mainly MSM)
- ✓ Health care
- ✓ Social & psychological aid
- ✓ Housing & shelter
- ✓ Safety and security
- ✓ Sport clubs
- ✓ Public Library