

A large, stylized graphic of a rainbow arching across the top and right sides of the slide. The rainbow is composed of several concentric, slightly wavy bands of color, including light blue, teal, green, and purple. The center of the slide is white, providing a clean background for the text.

RAINBOW NETWORK UPDATE

HFMA EASTERN BRANCH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
February 2025



Background

- East of England Rainbow network relaunched as an all-staff network two years ago
- The network enjoyed success with membership, organising events and webinars
- National Rainbow Network was launched around two years ago, initially as a Finance network, and later expanded as well to include all staff
- The network also organised events, webinars and showcase sessions
- Attended the London Pride Event in June 2023 with a float

Developments during the last year

- During 2024, a decision was made to merge the two networks together
- The networks share a chair and planning group members
- Demands on members' time made it difficult to attend both networks
- Planning group members also found it hard to divide attention and efforts into two networks and there was a risk of duplication
- A decision was made to merge the two networks together, with support still available to the East of England as and when required
- The steering group membership was extended, which enabled us to extend the network reach and access resources
- The network is supported by a dedication network lead from ONF (Natasha Plant), which made organisation much more efficient
- Event bookings are made easier via the ONF website


Recap of events during the last year

- History month – February 2024
 - Half-day history month event organised by the East of England Rainbow Network
 - Series of webinars and showcase sessions organised by the National Rainbow Network
- Pride Event – July 2024
- Topics covered:
 - Queer History, Medical Healthcare, Faith & Religion
 - Pronouns & Acronyms
 - Intersex
 - Non-Binary
 - Mythbuster Sessions
 - Trans Inclusion, Suffolk Pride, Allies
 - Asexual
 - Micro-positivities

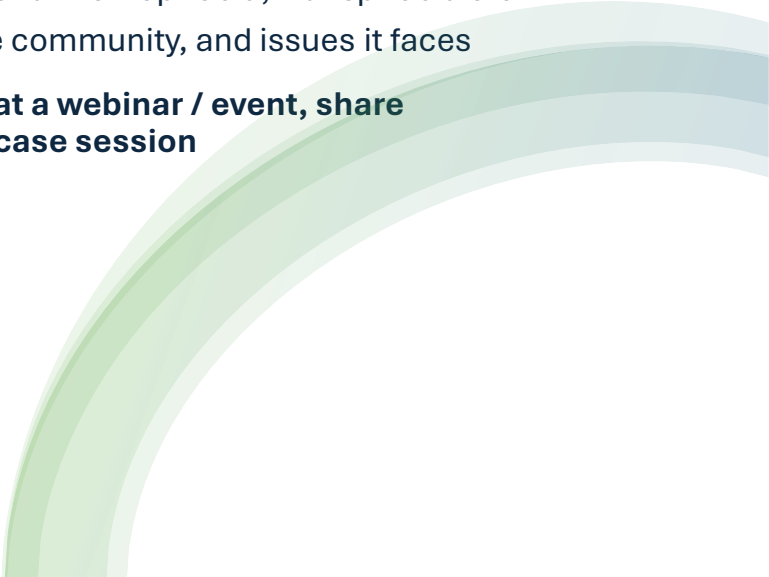


Upcoming events

- LGBTQ+ History event – February 2025
 - [LGBT+ History Month: Activism and Social Change](#)
- Asexual awareness: 29th April
 - [Asexual Awareness](#)
- LGBTQ+ calendar of key dates:
- [Rainbow Network Key calendar dates 2025](#)



What can you do to support

- **Promote awareness of the network with your organisations**
 - Circulate our material
 - Re-distribute notices of our webinars
 - Encourage your team to join network meetings or webinars
 - Link us to your networks to share information
 - **To encourage or instigate discussion within your organisation**
 - Team meetings, invite speakers, promote interest and understanding
 - Call out loose Language
 - Challenge Intentional or unintentional Homophobia, Transphobia etc
 - Develop your understanding of the community, and issues it faces
 - **Let us know if anyone wants to present at a webinar / event, share experiences, raise awareness, do showcase session**
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Contact

ONF website [The National Rainbow Network](#)

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