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*The Safe Zone Foundation*  
**Resources for Safe Zone Programs**

Home

The Safe Zone Foundation supports schools, colleges, universities, and community groups that provide programs and services for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered (LGBT) people in their schools and communities. The Safe Zone Foundation provides technical support, education and training, and financial support in the form of grants, donations and sponsorships.

Please scroll down for more information:

## The Safe Zone Program

What is a Safe Zone? Typically, Safe Zone programs are found on university and college campuses; however they are also found in high schools, in some churches and communities. Safe Zones provide safe spaces that are highly visible and easily identifiable to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) persons, where support and understanding is the key and where bigotry and discrimination are not tolerated.

Safe Zones are commonly identified as "ally" programs, where members of the LGBT community receive support from and work together with heterosexual supporters, friends and allies. GSA's (gay-straight alliances) are another example of an ally program.

A number of college and universities have implemented educational interventions with names such as Safe Zone, Safe Space, Safe Harbor, and Safe On Campus. Although it is unclear who first conceived of the "Safe" idea, the earliest found is the Ball State University program called SAFE On Campus (1992) or Staff, Administration, and Faculty for Equality On Campus which was implemented during the 1992-1993 academic year by the Lesbian, Bisexual, and Gay Student Association. Since published information has been previously unavailable then these "Safe" programs have probably been based on little knowledge or experience. The hallmark of these "Safe" programs is the public identification of allies by placing a "Safe" symbol, usually incorporating a pink triangle or rainbow, on office doors or within living spaces.

Student affairs professionals, administrators, and faculty only recently have begun to recognize the potential the development of heterosexual allies has for making the culture of a college or university campus more tolerant towards gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) students. Program interventions designed specifically for allies, such as Safe Zone, address the development of heterosexual allies while providing support to GLBT students. Typical components of these ally programs consist of a resource manual and sticker or sign. Some programs go as far as to require an orientation or training session(s) of varying length. Other components may include a listserv, advisory board/committee, web page resources, assessment, periodic socials, and identifying objects such as key chains, buttons, and pens.

Each Safe Zone program defines its purpose, mission and goals. Here are examples of some mission statements that further explain what a Safe Zone program is and what the program can accomplish:

- *Safe Zone's purpose is to reduce homophobia and heterosexism on our campus and thereby to make our campus a safer and freer environment for all members of our community regardless of sexual orientation. We train individual students and faculty and staff members to serve as resources for members of the campus community who are interested in thinking through and becoming more knowledgeable about diversity of sexual orientation. We also organize and sponsor educational programs for campus groups. --University of Richmond Chapter of Safe Zone Virginia*
- *The purpose of the SAFE ZONE program is to provide SAFE ZONES where members of our campus community can show their support for individuals affected by homophobia, hate, sexual violence. By placing the SAFE ZONE symbol on their door or showing the symbol to others, SAFE ZONE allies signify that their space is a safe place to talk about issues which impact people who have been affected by any type of hate/hate crime, LGBT individuals, and women who are affected by sexual violence/sexual harassment, and related issues. --Kansas State University*
- *The purpose of Safe Zone is to create a network of allies for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) students, and by doing so, to make the University community a safer and more supportive place. The Safe Zone program is a symbol of this University's efforts to increase awareness and acceptance of the LGBT community. Safe Zone ally trainings are open to faculty, staff, and students and are held throughout the year. Allies receive a Safe Zone sign to display in their offices and living space. -  
-University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*

## Starting a Safe Zone Program in Your School or Community

Safe Zone For All is an all-inclusive ally safe zone program developed by the Ally Group. They offer a number of resources for starting a Safe Zone program and also provide a number of training opportunities through the National Ally Training Group. Visit the following links for more information. (use your web browser's "back" button to return to the Safe Zone Foundation Web Site).

Resources To Create Your Own Safe Zone Program
Steps In Developing A Safe Zone Program
Who is this Program for?
Ally Safe Zone Contracts
Campus Assessment Worksheet
Activities for Established Programs
Strategic Challenges
Program Development Timeline
Establishing an Allies Programs from The Human Rights Campaign
Safe Zone Programs: Supporting GLBT Students
How Educators Can Help
Potential strategies and components of a Safe Zone Program
Motivation
Safe Zone and Retention
Suggestions for Creating an All Inclusive Safe Zone
What can you do on your campus?
Ally Safe Zones and Student Success
51 Ways to Support Students on Your Campus
Making Colleges and Universities Safe
National Consortium of Ally and Safe Space / Zone Programs



Safe Zone For All also offers these following resources:



#### Additional Resources for Starting a Safe Zone Project

- The National Consortium of LGBT Directors in Higher Education has an excellent overview of Safe Zone Projects in their Frequently Asked Questions section, click [here](#).
- Lambda 10 also provides a manual for creating Safe Zones and Ally programs for Fraternities and Sororities, click [here](#).
- Iowa State recently conducted an evaluation of their Safe Zone Project, click [here](#).
- Duke University's SAFE on Campus web site includes their extensive resource manual, click [here](#).
- Western Michigan University Safe Zone web site also includes their resource manual, click [here](#).
- The College of William and Mary Safe Zone program web site has many great resources including an online copy of the SAFE ZONE TRAINING MANUAL developed by "Safe Zone Virginia," a project sponsored by the Virginia Association of College and University Housing Officers (VACUHO), click [here](#).
- For more information on the Safe Zone Project at the University of Southern Maine, click [here](#).
- Many other colleges and universities provide information on their web sites about their Ally programs so do an internet search and see what else you can find. See "examples of successful Safe Zone programs" by clicking on one of the many links below.

#### Sample Safe Zone Handbook

Sacred Heart University, located in Fairfield, Connecticut, has an active Safe Zone Program. The University developed a "Task Force Against Homophobia" which oversees the Safe Zone Program. The goal of the Task Force is to increase the awareness and sensitivity of GLBT Issues facing the campus community, and in doing so, combat the stigmas of homophobia while creating a safe and welcoming environment for the entire community.

The task force publishes a Safe Zone manual. A copy of this manual is provided to all volunteers, faculty members, staff and students participating in the Safe Zone program. Download a copy of the manual by clicking the link below. This manual can be adapted to meet the needs of the Safe Zone program at your school or in your community.

[click here to download file](#)

The Safe Zone program at Sacred Heart University offers a number of online resources on their website. [Click the link below for more information.](#)

Task Force Against Homophobia at Sacred Heart University.

## Safe Zone Logos, Posters, and Stickers

Each Safe Zone program is encouraged to develop a unique logo. This logo is used on flyers, buttons, program materials and most commonly, on stickers or posters to help identify participating Safe Zone program members. There isn't one standard logo that is universally used. However, some organizations do make their logo and stickers available to other groups. For more information on ordering stickers or for ideas on designing your own logo, click on the link below:

[Safe Zone Logos and Stickers](#)

## Funding and Grant Opportunities

The Safe Zone Foundation offers small grants to non-profit organizations, schools, student groups and community organizations that serve the LGBT community. We do give out small grants that can be used for starting new programs. Our deadline for the 2004/5 school year has come and gone already and our RFP for 2005/6 comes out in January with the deadline for applications April 30, 2005. We make our awards by July 1 so that the money is ready by the start of the school year. Check back for updates regarding our next funding cycle.

### OTHER FUNDING IDEAS

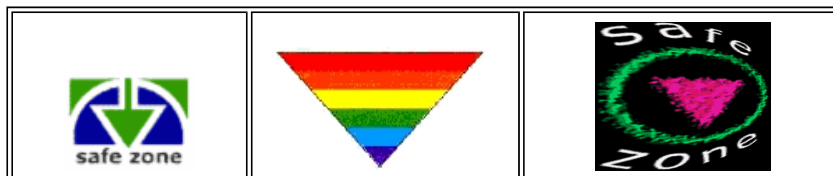
Campus Pride offers a number of helpful resources. [Click on the links in the table below:](#)

Tips for Fundraising	Planning with PRIDE	Handouts & Videos
Raising money for your student organization can be fun and very rewarding. Fundraising for any student group can be challenging. In some cases, finding money for a GLBT Queer student group has it's own challenges.	Remember that your money can go further by planning ahead, thinking creatively and calling different agencies and speakers. Here's some facts to get you on your way...	Educational programs require handouts and audiovisual material. These materials focus on making your job as a LGBT leader easier and more effective.
READ ARTICLE	READ ARTICLE	VIEW LIST

## Examples of Successful Safe Zone Programs

Click [HERE](#) for a listing of schools and organizations we have assisted.

Click on any of the logos below to visit that organization's website to learn more about their successful Safe Zone program.



<p>Indiana University (All Inclusive)</p>	<p>Unity College safezone</p>	<p>Florida State University</p>
 <p>Iowa State University</p>	 <p>Virginia Commonwealth University</p>	 <p>Eastern Illinois University</p>
 <p>Cal Poly, Pomona</p>	 <p>University of Richmond</p>	 <p>Purdue University</p>
 <p>University of Wyoming</p>	 <p>North Dakota State University</p>	 <p>Illinois State University</p>
 <p>Plymouth State College</p>	 <p>Texas A+M</p>	 <p>Carnegie Mellon University</p>
 <p>Western Michigan University</p>	 <p>MSU- Moorhead</p>	 <p>UC- Riverside</p>
 <p>Duke University</p>	 <p>Marywood University</p>	 <p>NYU</p>
 <p>University of Delaware</p>	 <p>University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill</p>	 <p>University of North Texas</p>
 <p>Northern Illinois University</p>	 <p>Trinity College- CT</p>	 <p>Virginia Tech</p>
 <p>Indiana University of</p>		 <p>Bridgewater State College</p>

<p>Pennsylvania</p>  <p>College of the Holy Cross</p>	<p>Suffolk University</p>  <p>WPI</p>	 <p>East Carolina University</p>
 <p>Emory University</p>	 <p>Franklin and Marshall College</p>	 <p>Indiana University</p>
 <p>Kansas State University</p>	 <p>Lehigh University</p>	 <p>Northern Michigan University</p>
 <p>Colby-Sawyer College</p>	 <p>University of Southern Maine</p>	 <p>Bloomfield College</p>
 <p>Binghamton University</p>	 <p>West Virginia University</p>	 <p>Gustavus Adolphus College</p>
 <p>Georgetown University</p>	 <p>Colby College</p>	 <p>University of Iowa</p>
 <p>Coe College</p>	 <p>SouthWest Texas State University</p>	 <p>UNLV</p>
 <p>George Mason University</p>	 <p>Lyndon State College</p>	 <p>University of New Hampshire</p>
 <p>Western Kentucky University</p>	 <p>UW- River Falls</p>	 <p>UNK</p>

 <p>Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University</p>	 <p>Elmira College</p>	 <p>University of the Sciences in Philadelphia</p>
 <p>North Carolina State University</p>	 <p>Northwestern University</p>	 <p>Southern Methodist University</p>
 <p>Sacred Heart University</p>	 <p>Simmons College</p>	 <p>Washington University</p>
 <p>CSU- Chico</p>	 <p>Northwest Missouri State University</p>	 <p>University of Arizona</p>
 <p>University of Texas</p>	 <p>University of Virginia</p>	 <p>AT+T</p>
 <p>Santa Clara University</p>		 <p>Louisiana State University</p>
 <p>American University</p>	 <p>League</p>	 <p>MIT</p>
 <p>UW-LaCrosse</p>	 <p>Safe Places in Work Places</p>	 <p>Northeastern University</p>

 <p><b>SAFE SPACE</b></p> <p><small>This sign is a reflection of my support for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual &amp; Transgender community.</small></p> <p><small>It is important that ALL people have a place where they feel comfortable interacting with their peers.</small></p> <p><small>This is one of those places!</small></p> <p>University of Dayton</p>	 <p><b>LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL &amp; TRANSGENDERED POSITIVE SPACE</b></p> <p><small>This is a place where human rights are valued, and where lesbian, gay, bisexual &amp; transgendered people and their friends and allies are welcomed and supported.</small></p> <p>McMaster University</p>	 <p><b>SAFE ZONE</b></p> <p>St. Paul Public Schools</p>
 <p>Youngstown State University</p> <p><b>Safe Zone Project</b></p> <p>Youngstown State University</p>	 <p><b>Ally</b></p> <p>SAINT MICHAEL'S COLLEGE</p>	 <p><b>OHIO SAFE ZONE</b></p>
 <p><b>GLBT SAFE PLACE</b></p> <p>Michigan Tech.</p>	 <p><b>ALLY</b></p> <p>The University of Western Australia</p>	 <p><b>Project B-GLAD</b></p> <p>Diversity Awareness Initiative Regarding Bisexuals, Gays, Lesbians, and Allies for Diversity at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington</p>
	 <p><b>SAFE PERSON ALLY SAFE SPACE</b></p> <p>University of Nebraska-Lincoln</p>	

If you need more information or have any questions, please contact the Safe Zone Foundation.

[Send E-mail](#)