



**HÁTTÉR**  
**SUPPORT SOCIETY**  
FOR LGBT PEOPLE IN HUNGARY

# OUR AIMS

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Háttér Support Society for LGBT People in Hungary (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 into society at large.

Háttér works towards these aims by calling attention to the problems faced by LGBT people; lobbying against discriminative laws and promoting legislation protecting LGBT people; providing support services; encouraging the self-organization of LGBT communities; and preserving and spreading LGBT heritage and culture.

# OUR ACTIVITIES

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## 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. The hotline, in particular, offers help with everyday problems (self-acceptance, identity crises, conflicts, partnership problems); provides information on cultural events, dating opportunities, contact details for other organizations, groups, and LGBT forums; information on HIV and AIDS and legal problems.

Our trained volunteers answer calls every day from 6:00pm to 11:00pm on the **+36 80 505 605** toll-free phone number (from landlines only) and the **+36 1 329 3380** phone number (available from both landlines and mobiles). The hotline is also available during the same hours on Skype (account name: "segelyvonal").



## LEGAL AID

Our legal aid service has been in operation since 2000 and consists of a network of partner lawyers with different fields of expertise. The service focuses on cases of discrimination, harassment and violence on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity, but it



also provides advice on any legal matter 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 telephone hotline, at the **jogsegely@hatter.hu** email address or on the **+36 30 944 0765** phone number (weekdays from 8:00am to 8:00pm). Victims can also report their incidents online on the website **www.jelentsd-a-homofobiat.hu** either anonymously or by revealing their name if they wish to do so.

## HIV/AIDS PROGRAM

Our HIV/AIDS prevention program focuses on raising awareness, 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 adopting the International Social Network Study program. Since 2005 we have been operating a non-stop hotline for HIV+ people available both online at the **hivvonal@hatter.hu** email address and via telephone on the **+36 70 949 7666** and **+36 70 949 7667** phone numbers.

## ADVOCACY

Our organization has taken an active role in lobbying for legal changes to end discrimination of LGBT people and families and to provide efficient legal responses to discrimination, harassment and violence suffered by LGBT people. We regularly publish our position on bills that are in progress, participate in public hearings and working groups, and push for growing awareness of LGBT issues among policy makers. We have made significant contributions to current legislation on equality, 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 Hungary. In 2003-2004 we conducted research about the experiences of trans people in healthcare and social services. In 2007 and 2010 we conducted large scale quantitative surveys on the situation of LGBT people in Hungary in cooperation with the Institute of Sociology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. We have also been involved in several international research projects on HIV/AIDS issues.

## ARCHIVE

Our organization has a growing collection of books, journals, newspaper articles, audiovisual material, 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 via email at the **archivum@hatter.hu** email address.

## TRAINING

Our organization regularly organizes awareness raising and capacity building training for members of the LGBT community, HIV/AIDS prevention training for students and professionals, and sensitivity training for professionals working with LGBT clients (e.g. lawyers, police, teachers, child care services). In addition to our existing training programs we also develop customized training programs tailored to the needs of our clients. Further information is available at **kepzes@hatter.hu**.



## BUDAPEST PRIDE

Our organization has been taking an active part in organizing the annual Budapest Pride LGBT Cultural and Film Festival since 1997. Since 2001 the festival has been organized by the Rainbow Mission Foundation, of which Hátter is a founding member. The website for the festival is available at **[www.budapestpride.hu](http://www.budapestpride.hu)**.

## NETWORKS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Our organization strives to cooperate with other human rights and LGBT NGOs both at the national and international levels. We have been a member of the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association (ILGA) since 1996; we hosted the General Meeting of ILGA-Europe in 2004 in Budapest. We have been a member of Transgender Europe since 2010. Hátter is among the founding members of 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 DETAILS

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Bank account: HU 69 1171 3005 2042 1487 0000 0000

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