



TRANSGENDER ADVOCACY SPEAKERS BUREAU

Getting to know our transgender community members

We all have a story to share

Through our Transgender Advocacy Speakers Bureau, LGBT-affirming faith communities open their doors to transgender advocates who facilitate conversations about their own life stories, while providing a forum for participants to engage in a question-and-answer dialogue. One story at a time, we are helping to build understanding and support for Virginia's transgender community.



What is the Transgender Advocacy Speakers Bureau?

Advocates in our Speakers Bureau are trained facilitators, and are connecting with faith communities across Virginia in an effort to build a better understanding of transgender life experiences through storytelling and open, candid dialogue. This Equality Virginia program is modeled upon past conversations (called "[Coffee Talks](#)") that have positively impacted over 200 people across the state. Through this formalized program, Equality Virginia coordinates with faith communities to arrange an hour-long meeting space, which will be facilitated by one of our transgender advocates. They will discuss their life and the landscape for LGBT equality in Virginia; and, attendees are encouraged to ask questions and get connected to different opportunities for engagement.



People enjoy the opportunity to connect with transgender community members:

- "This was the most moving and transformational event I have attended at UUCF in over 40 years of membership."
- "Through listening to people's stories, this program helped me come to my own "aha" moment of greater clarity and empathy."
- "Education and meeting people is an important step in ridding yourself of any previous misconceptions that you might have."
- "It's important to realize that we are talking about people, and important to hear their stories as fellow human beings."

How do I get involved?

Call Equality Virginia at 804-643-4816 or send an email to info@equalityvirginia.org if you have any questions or if your faith community is interested in hosting an advocate from the Transgender Advocacy Speakers Bureau.

We look forward to hearing from you.