



**inreach**

**Sponsor the InReach  
2023 Junior Board  
Great Lakes  
Regional Chapter**

Partner with InReach to showcase to your employees and customers your company's commitment to LGBTQ+, trans and refugee rights, innovation and social justice

[inreach.org/junior-board-program](https://inreach.org/junior-board-program)



# Sponsoring the 2023 Junior Board Great Lakes Regional Chapter

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Partner with us to help build a diverse coalition of LGBTQ+ and allied young professionals across the Great Lakes region who are passionate about LGBTQ+ and trans rights, immigrant justice and belonging, and leveraging the power of technology for social good.

As a 2023 Junior Board Great Lakes Regional Chapter sponsor, you will help trans and queer people fleeing persecution find the safety to live authentically while demonstrating your company's strong commitment to equity, equality, diversity, inclusion and innovation.

**We are excited to offer the following 2023 sponsorship opportunity to allow for your company to make a meaningful difference in the Great Lakes region:**

## **JUNIOR BOARD GREAT LAKES CHAPTER REGIONAL SPONSOR**

*Annual Sponsorship Rate: \$15,000*

### **As a sponsor, your company will receive the following benefits:**

- Up to 5 guaranteed seats in the 2023 Junior Board Great Lakes Regional Chapter
- Logo placement on InReach's website and logo inclusion on promotional materials for all events hosted by the 2023 Junior Board Great Lakes Regional Chapter
- Logo placement in InReach's annual report
- Sponsorship announcement on the InReach blog
- Quarterly (4) mentions in InReach's email newsletter and on InReach's social media
- Opportunity to sponsor the InReach Junior Board's remote Guest Speaker Series and invite your employees to attend the presentation
  - Featured guest speakers: Fernando Chang-Muy, J.D., M.A. (Professor of Refugee Law, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Former Legal Officer, UNHCR and WHO, & Advisory Council, InReach); Dr. Ronica Mukerjee (Clinical Lecturer, Yale University School of Nursing); Seth Schermer (Vice President and Chief Development Officer, Victory Fund & Victory Institute); Dr. Adrienne Fulco (Director of the Public Policy and Law Program, Trinity College); Al Sandimirova (Founder, Atomic Gold); Rodrigo Heng-Lehtinen (now Executive Director at the National Center for Transgender Equality & former Governing Board, InReach)
- A series of up to 4 customized virtual lunch and learn events per year, for the company to learn more about InReach and our cause
  - Sample session topics: Technology For Good | Diversity, Inclusion & Equity | Global LGBTQ+ Rights | Transgender Rights | Forced LGBTQ+ Migration | The U.S. Asylum System | LGBTQ+ Stories Roundtable | Using InReach's Free Technology to Support LGBTQ+ Clients & Employees in Need of Affirming Resources | How Companies Can Support InReach

# Sponsoring the 2023 Junior Board Great Lakes Regional Chapter (cont.)

- Host virtual or in-person volunteer events through InReach
  - Opportunity to refer up to 25 employees based in the Great Lakes region to InReach's Local Community Reviewer employee engagement opportunity.
    - *Time commitment:* ~2-5 hours per month with flexible hours. \*Company ERGs can organize a Local Community Review Session for an impactful day of volunteering where LGBTQ+ and allied employees convene for a day to help improve the InReach App in their local community.
    - *What will my employees do?* Volunteers will meaningfully contribute to keeping the free InReach App's verified resource data comprehensive and up-to-date for LGBTQ+ people fleeing persecution and other LGBTQ+ people in need in their local community through:
      - Providing feedback on the local verified organizations listed in the InReach App.
      - Sharing their local expertise directly with InReach's users by writing public reviews.
      - Suggesting new affirming organizations in their community for potential inclusion on InReach.

## Role of the sponsor:

- Refer eligible employees to fill up to 5 guaranteed seats in the 2023 Junior Board Great Lakes Regional Chapter
- Make a monetary annual donation of \$15,000 (the \$1,000 membership dues requirement for the up to 5 Junior Board seats will be covered for eligible employees by this donation)
- If possible based on company policy, agree to let the Junior Board Great Lakes Regional Chapter use the company's office space pro bono—as needed and availability allows—for local chapter events and membership meet-ups

Please contact Shannon, InReach Programs Director, at [shannon@inreach.org](mailto:shannon@inreach.org) if your company would like to become a 2023 Great Lakes Regional Chapter sponsor or if you would like to schedule a call to learn more. *\*We also offer free remote information sessions for your company and employees to learn more about the InReach Junior Board Program.*

*Have another idea of how we could collaborate? If this sponsorship opportunity does not work for your company, please feel free to still reach out to discuss other ways to support the InReach 2023 Junior Board Program.*

Find us on **Benevity** and visit our website for more information:  
[inreach.org/junior-board-program](https://inreach.org/junior-board-program)

# Why InReach is Needed

80+

*In over 80 countries around the world it remains illegal or fundamentally unsafe to live openly as a LGBTQ+ person. This reality forces thousands of persecuted LGBTQ+ people to leave everything behind to seek refuge in the U.S. every year.*

1.7M+

*There are over 1,700,000 cases backlogged in the U.S. immigration court system.*

300+

*So far in 2022, more than 300 bills have been introduced across the U.S., the majority targeting the trans community.*

21.6%

*LGBTQ+ people in the U.S. have a collective poverty rate of 21.6%, as compared to 15.7% for their straight cisgender peers.*

40%

*An estimated 40% of homeless youth in the U.S. identify as gay or transgender: 4x higher than the average population.*

Before InReach, there was no holistic, technologically advanced platform for LGBTQ+ people in need of safe, verified resources. We have created the first and only scalable tech platform designed to fill this critical information gap.

# About InReach

(formerly AsylumConnect)

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InReach (formerly AsylumConnect) is a trans-led 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization providing the **world's first tech platform matching LGBTQ+ people with safe, verified resources**. InReach's free technology instantly matches LGBTQ+ people fleeing persecution and other LGBTQ+ people in need with independently verified, affirming medical and mental health care, immigration and other legal help, safe housing, education and employment opportunities, translation services, community support, and more critical support services. Since launching in 2016, the free InReach App has made **over 250,000** matches between LGBTQ+ people fleeing persecution and other LGBTQ+ people in need, and verified, safe service providers.

- InReach is for the entire diverse LGBTQ+ community - including asylum seekers and refugees, undocumented and other immigrants, young people experiencing homelessness, those facing family or community rejection due to their identity, those living with HIV/AIDS, and other transgender and non-binary people in need of safe resources.

The free InReach App is available on web, mobile web, and native iOS and Android. The App is available in all 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia and U.S. territories, Mexico and Canada.

For its novel use of technology to ensure every LGBTQ+ person finds the safety to live authentically, InReach has earned national and international recognition including:

- 2022 Data for Justice Prize, World Justice Challenge 2022 at the World Justice Forum in The Hague, Netherlands
- 2021 Passion Fund Gold Winner by Linktree x Square
- 2020 Fast Company World Changing Ideas Awards, Finalist in Apps Category
- 2020 Forbes 30 Under 30 in Law & Policy
- 2019 Foursquare For Good Challenge Winner, Foursquare
- 2019 Roddenberry Fellowship, The Roddenberry Foundation

Other funders and supporters include the Clinton Foundation, Borealis Philanthropy's Fund for Trans Generations, Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice, J.M. Kaplan Fund and Mercedes-Benz USA.

# About the InReach Junior Board Program

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## Program Mission Statement

The InReach Junior Board is a group of young professionals committed to supporting InReach's work through fundraising, networking and marketing.

## Program Vision Statement

Our goal is to build a national movement and mobilize thousands of young professionals to serve as ambassadors in their communities for the world's first tech platform matching LGBTQ+ people with safe, verified resources.

## Program Membership Requirements

- Open to young professionals (ages 21 to 40 years old)
- Our Junior Board members commit ~3-5 hours per month to InReach, including attending remote monthly meetings via Zoom
- Meet (or exceed) the \$1,000 annual membership dues requirement
- Passionate about LGBTQ+ and refugee rights, and technology for social good

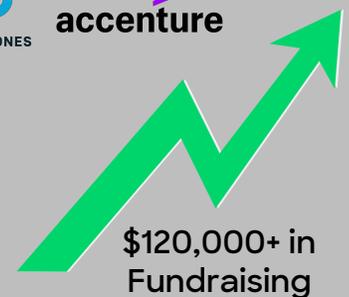
## Program Highlights (2020-22)



- Employers represented include:



- Organized virtual "Lunch & Learns" at Adobe, Jones Day, BBR Partners, PwC, Petal and tapped into corporate giving
- Launched special interest committees (Steering; Fundraising; Tech; Marketing; Recruitment; Learning & Development; Social)



## 2023 Junior Board Program

- The 2023 Junior Board will use a hybrid model of virtual programming, with in-person regional meet-ups throughout the year to build local community:
- The Great Lakes Regional Chapter will be open to young professionals living in Illinois, Michigan, or Indiana.
  - \*Other 2023 regional chapters will include: Tri-State Area Regional Chapter; West Coast Regional Chapter; National Capital Regional Chapter; & a 100% Virtual Chapter.
- Special interest committees will include: Steering, Tech, Fundraising, Marketing, Learning & Development, Recruitment

# Junior Board Testimonials

"I joined InReach's Junior Board program because I wanted to contribute to a cause that is personally meaningful to me. As a gay immigrant from Bulgaria going through the U.S. immigration system for the past 10 years, I have experienced first-hand the difficulties of being an LGBTQ+ immigrant in this country. InReach's tech platform offers vital help many LGBTQ+ people fleeing persecution need to be safe. I am confident that as a part of the Junior Board I can make an impact by using my professional connections and resources to help further our mission."

**- Slavi, 2022 & 2021 Junior Board Co-Chair**

"I decided to join because the mission to connect LGBTQ+ people fleeing persecution to verified resources is a pressing need that I hear often from youth in crisis in my capacity as a volunteer with The Trevor Project. As a former Product Manager on the team that connects merchants to consumers on Google Maps, I'm also convinced that there's a real solutions gap here - there's nobody else doing this kind of tailored, high precision vetting. The Junior Board has been a great way for me to tangibly support this mission, meet a community of like-minded young professionals, and learn more about the nonprofit space."

**- Christina, 2021 Junior Board Member & 2022 Governing Board Member at InReach**



InReach Junior Board members at the Junior Board's NYC Drag Queen Bingo Fundraiser Event at Stonewall Inn (July 18, 2022).

# InReach in the Great Lakes Region

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InReach's free technology is currently available in Illinois, Michigan, and Indiana. There is an urgent need to continue to raise awareness and expand InReach's service across the Great Lakes region.

- *Michigan received the fourth-most refugees of any state in the last decade.*
- *Thousands of kids in Chicago experience homelessness every day, with LGBTQ+ and children of color especially impacted.*
- *In May 2022, Indiana lawmakers overrode the governor's veto to enact an anti-trans sports ban.*

To-date, InReach (formerly AsylumConnect) has been featured in local press such as *Between the Lines* (the largest and longest-running LGBTQ+ publication in Michigan), as well as national outlets such as *Forbes*, *NowThis*, *Teen Vogue* and *The Daily Beast*.

“My first year in the states I have applied for asylum because of all the tortures and persecution I have faced in my home country because of my sexuality ... I hope you might be able to help or guide me to where I might find help. *Anything really would help.*”

**- Gay asylee from North Africa in need of safe resource referrals in Indiana**

"Thanks again for sharing this incredible resource. I passed it on to someone looking for LGBT resources in Michigan already, it's sooooo helpful!"

**- Pro Bono Director at legal nonprofit**