

Seek LGBTQ+ resources.

Reach safety.

Find belonging.

# **InReach 2025 Media Kit**

## **Media Contacts**

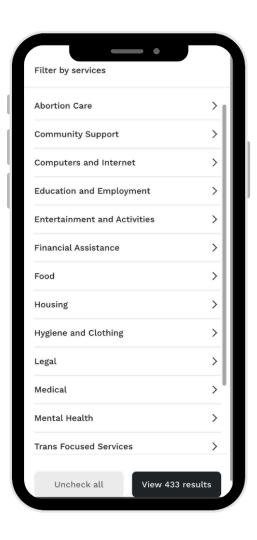
InReach Press Team

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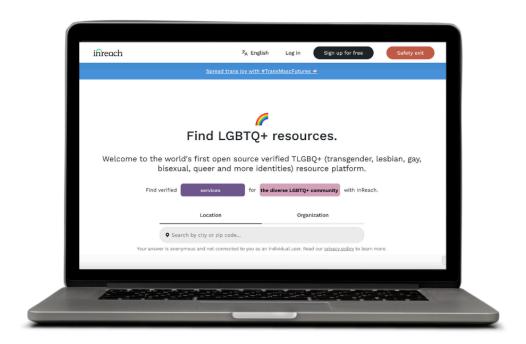
#### **About InReach**

InReach (fka AsylumConnect) is a trans-led tech nonprofit building the world's first open source verified LGBTQ+ resource platform. At scale, InReach will ensure every trans and queer person has on-demand access to the safe resources they need to thrive, while contributing valuable data insights to the LGBTQ+ movement.

- InReach connects LGBTQ+ people facing discrimination and persecution with independently verified safe housing, medical and mental health care, immigration and other legal help, trans focused services, meal assistance, education and employment, translation, community and spiritual support, and more.
- InReach is available on web (desktop and mobile), native iOS, and Android.
- Over 8,500 services across North America are currently listed with new independently verified services added every day by trained volunteers.



- InReach is a digital one-stop-shop designed to address intersectional community needs, with services focused on LGBTQ+ asylum seekers/refugees/immigrants, BIPOC communities, transgender and gender nonconforming (TGNC) folks, youth and caregivers, and more LGBTQ+ communities.
- InReach is 100% free for everyone including lawyers, case managers, social workers, teachers, crisis counselors, and other provider and community organizations searching for affirming resource referrals for their LGBTQ+ clients.



## Sample Technology Platform Features:

**Open Source** – InReach is built for scale and local community input, ensuring it evolves with the needs of the LGBTO+ community.

✓ **Vetted Resources Only** – Every service provider listed on InReach is independently vetted (and regularly re-verified) by trained volunteers to ensure they are affirming for the diverse LGBTQ+ community.

**Safety First** − We know online anonymity can be a life-or-death issue for LGBTQ+ people. That's why our platform is designed to protect users' confidentiality and safety online.

- **Localization (Translation)** As an open source platform, InReach uses crowdsourced translations. Real people verify (and edit as needed) our machine-generated translations to ensure accuracy, inclusivity, and cultural competence.
- Holistic Support InReach lists 15 categories of verified support, including trans-focused services, legal help, safe housing, meal assistance, abortion care, mental health and medical care, translation and interpretation, community support, financial assistance, and more.
- Q Personalize Your Search − Users can easily filter out providers that require fees and specific documentation (e.g., photo ID, medical insurance, proof of age/income/residence, or a referral) to access.
- Leave Ratings and Reviews Logged-in users can now share public ratings (one to five stars) and written reviews on all verified service providers listed on InReach. Your feedback helps guide other LGBTQ+ people in choosing the right resources to meet their needs.
- **Suggest New Resources** Logged-in users can suggest new LGBTQ+ resources for inclusion on InReach to our Resource Team, helping to expand our network of trusted providers.
- \*Save Resources Logged-in users can bookmark their favorite resources for easy access later.
- **≜ Share Resources** Users can easily share trusted resources with loved ones and/or clients, ensuring everyone has access to the help they need.
- **Sorting Search Results (Coming Soon)** Soon, you'll be able to sort verified providers by LGBTQ+ community focus (e.g., prioritize BIPOC, TGNC, and/or immigrant providers).
- **Service Provider Features (Coming Soon)** Providers who register for a free user account and "claim" their organization's profile will gain access to a suite of free tools to showcase their services on InReach.

<sup>\*</sup>See here for a quick demo of the InReach platform on mobile.

## **Our Impact**

InReach is proud to serve thousands of users across North America, connecting the diverse LGBTQ+ community with safe, verified resources.

## By the Numbers

- 420,000+ people have used InReach to access safe, verified resources
- **8,500+** searchable verified services listed on InReach
- 3,800+ hours vetting providers contributed by trained volunteers in 2023 & 2024
- **1.5M+** words translated / proofread by trained volunteers in 2024 to make InReach accessible in multiple languages

## **Featured Awards & Recognitions**

For its novel use of technology to ensure *every* LGBTQ+ person has on-demand access to safe resources, InReach has earned national and international recognition including:

- 2023 Fast Company's Most Innovative Companies, 'Small and Mighty' category
- **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 Forbes 30 Under 30** in Law & Policy
- 2019 Foursquare For Good Challenge Winner, Foursquare
- **2019 Roddenberry Fellowship**, The Roddenberry Foundation

## **How InReach Started**

Jamie co-founded InReach (fka AsylumConnect) during his senior year at the University of Pennsylvania. At Penn, a classmate shared his personal experience struggling to find safe resources during the U.S. asylum process despite access to technology. As a trans man who grew up in a conservative environment, the feeling of not being able to live authentically and lacking easily accessible information on how to find affirming support deeply resonated with Jamie. So, during their senior year, the two friends co-founded AsylumConnect, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization started as the world's first technology platform for LGBTQ+ asylum seekers, to fill the critical resource information gap facing the

diverse LGBTQ+ community. The organization is founded on the belief that every LGBTQ+ person deserves the safety and freedom to live authentically.

In May 2022, AsylumConnect officially became InReach. Since launching its app in 2016, the organization has seen the platform be used by a wide variety of LGBTQ+ people, in addition to those seeking asylum. The organization rebranded to InReach to better communicate and reflect the value of its free technology to a diverse LGBTQ+ user base.

Today, InReach lists verified services for LGBTQ+ asylum seekers, refugees and other immigrants, LGBTQ+ BIPOC communities, the transgender and gender nonconforming (TGNC) community, LGBTQ+ youth and their caregivers, and more LGBTQ+ communities

InReach's cause continues to deeply resonate with Jamie as a trans man from a conservative background. Jamie also leads the organization with firsthand experience using the InReach App to locate trusted trans affirming legal help for his name and gender marker changes, lifesaving gender-affirming medical care, and critical mental health services as he navigated his own transition at the age of 26.

"When I first began my transition at the age of 26, I did not know where to start. So I turned to InReach. I used the free InReach App to locate trusted trans friendly legal help for my name and gender marker changes, lifesaving gender-affirming medical care, and critical mental health services as I navigated my transition. With the support of InReach, I am proud and grateful to now live openly as a trans man." – Jamie Sgarro, Co-Founder & Executive Director

## **Organization Spokespeople**

### Jamie Sgarro, InReach Co-Founder & Executive Director



Jamie Sgarro (he/they) is the co-founder and executive director of InReach (fka AsylumConnect). After co-founding the organization at the age of 21, Jamie has led InReach for 10 years in establishing the world's first open source verified LGBTQ+ resource platform. As a trans man who grew up in a conservative environment and who used InReach to find affirming resources during his own transition, Jamie remains personally motivated to ensure other trans and queer people in need have access to InReach.

For his work on InReach, Jamie has earned national and international recognition for outstanding contribution

in social impact including as the recipient the Millennium Campus Network's 2015 Millennium Peace Prize at the United Nations, member of the Clinton Foundation's 2017 CGI U Alumni Honor Roll of social innovators, 2019 Roddenberry Fellow, 2020 Forbes 30 under 30 honoree in Law & Policy, finalist in Fast Company's 2020 World Changing Ideas Awards, a Gold Winner in the 2021 Passion Fund by Linktree x Square, and the Data for Justice Prize Winner at the World Justice Challenge 2022 at the World Justice Forum in The Hague, Netherlands and most recently, led InReach to be recognized on Fast Company's 2023 'Most Innovative Companies' list.

Jamie has been a featured speaker on LGBTQ+/TGNC rights and technology for social good, and his work has appeared in national outlets including Forbes, The Daily Beast, Teen Vogue, The Advocate, The Hill, and NowThis.

Jamie holds a B.A. cum laude with distinction in Health & Societies from the University of Pennsylvania and a M.S. in Management from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management. He is currently a part-time FlexJ.D. candidate at Northeastern University School of Law.

## Other Spokespersons

InReach has an Ambassador Program of individuals who have successfully leveraged InReach's free, open source technology to access safe, verified resources for themselves or their LGBTQ+ clients: <a href="https://inreach.org/inreach-ambassador-program">https://inreach.org/inreach-ambassador-program</a>

More about the other members of the organization is available at: <a href="https://inreach.org/about-us">https://inreach.org/about-us</a>

## Featured Press for InReach (fka AsylumConnect)

## INREACH (FKA ASYLUMCONNECT) IN THE NEWS

#### June 2024 ABC 7 New York

New York City Pride 2024 March <a href="https://www.youtube.com/live/7360xN9dLvM?t=5405s">https://www.youtube.com/live/7360xN9dLvM?t=5405s</a>

#### **June 2024 The Advocate**

A tipping point for LGBTQ+ forced migration (op-ed) <a href="https://www.advocate.com/voices/jamie-sgarro">https://www.advocate.com/voices/jamie-sgarro</a>

### **April 2024 Spectrum News 1 Kentucky**

First Kentucky LGBTQ+ Health and Wellness fair held in Lexington <a href="https://spectrumnews1.com/ky/louisville/news/2024/04/14/lgbtq-health-and-wellness-fair">https://spectrumnews1.com/ky/louisville/news/2024/04/14/lgbtq-health-and-wellness-fair</a>

#### March 2024 The Daily Beast

How the InReach App Is Helping LGBTQ+ Families Flee Red States

https://www.thedailybeast.com/how-the-inreach-app-is-helping-lgbtq-families-flee-red-states

#### **May 2023 INSIGHT Into Diversity**

Resource Hub Sees Spike in Demand as Anti-LGBTQ+ Legislation Grows

www.insightintodiversitv.com/resource-hub-sees-spike-in-demand-as-anti-lgbtq-legislation-grows

#### **April 2023 Northeastern Global News**

Northeastern law student runs a nonprofit to help LGBTQ+ community members find needed resources

https://news.northeastern.edu/2023/04/04/lgbtq-community-resources-nonprofit-inreach

### **March 2023 Fast Company**

The most innovative companies with fewer than 10 employees in 2023

 $\underline{www.fastcompany.com/90849059/most-innovative-companies-small-mighty-under-10-employees-2023}$ 

## **November 2022 Upwork Blog**

The Upwork Foundation Grants \$1.68 Million To Help People Displaced By Conflict Find Work—No Matter Their Location

www.upwork.com/blog/upwork-foundation-grants-2022

#### **June 2022 The Clinton Foundation Stories**

One CGI U Alum's Journey to Harness Technology to Connect LGBTQ+ Individuals with Safe Resources

www.clintonfoundation.org/stories/one-cgi-u-alums-journey-to-harness-technology-to-connect-lgb ta-individuals-with-safe-verified-resources

### June 2022 The World Justice Project Announcement

World Justice Challenge Winners announced in The Hague

https://worldjusticeproject.org/news/world-justice-challenge-winners-announced-hague

### June 2022 GW Today

For LGBTQ+ People Seeking Asylum, the Path Is Fraught with Difficulty <a href="https://gwtoday.gwu.edu/lgbtq-people-seeking-asylum-path-fraught-difficulty">https://gwtoday.gwu.edu/lgbtq-people-seeking-asylum-path-fraught-difficulty</a>

### **August 2021 Linktree Company Announcement**

Linktree Announces Passion Fund Winners

www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/linktree-announces-passion-fund-winners-301354695.html

#### InReach's Social Media

Bluesky @weareinreach.bsky.social

Instagram @weareinreach

Facebook @weareinreach

LinkedIn @weareinreach

TikTok @weareinreach

YouTube @weareinreach