



Seek LGBTQ+ resources.

Reach safety.

Find belonging.

InReach 2025 Media Kit

Media Contacts

InReach Press Team

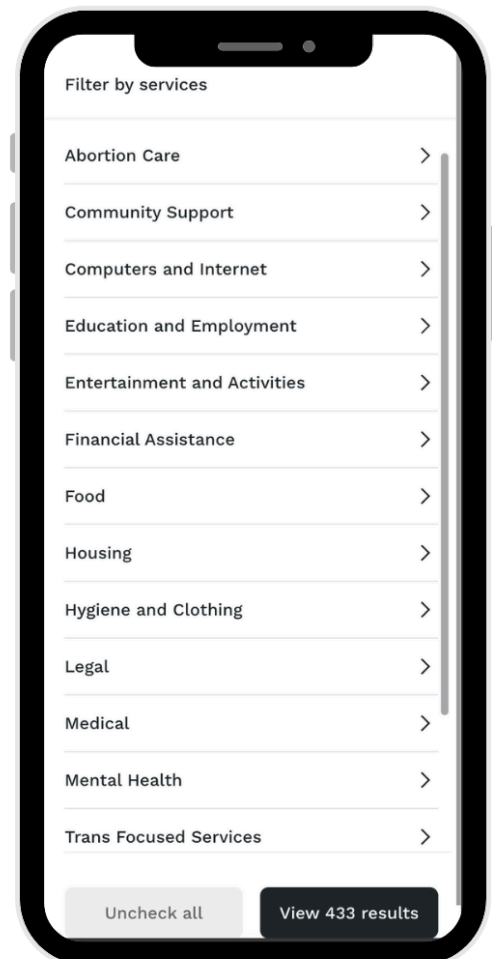
Email: press@inreach.org

Website: <https://inreach.org>

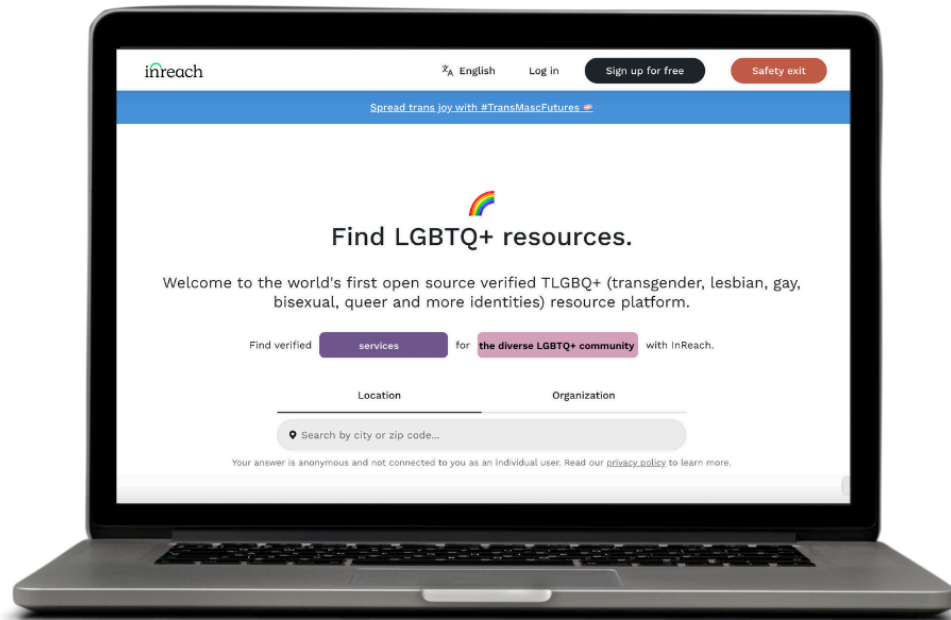
About InReach

InReach (fka AsylumConnect) is a trans-led tech nonprofit behind the world's first open source verified LGBTQ+ resource platform. Nearly half a million people have already used InReach's free platform to find verified LGBTQ+ resources. At scale, InReach will ensure that every trans and queer person has on-demand access to the life-saving resources they need to thrive—while also generating vital data insights to strengthen the broader 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, listing verified services focused on LGBTQ+ asylum seekers / refugees / other immigrants, BIPOC communities, transgender and gender nonconforming (TGNC) folks, youth and caregivers, and more LGBTQ+ communities in need of resources.
- 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 LGBTQ+ 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.


 **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.

*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

- **Nearly half a million** people have used InReach to access safe, verified resources
- **8,500+** searchable verified services listed on InReach
- **1,300+** hours vetting providers contributed by trained volunteers in 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 (North America)
- **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

Organization Spokespeople



Shannon Baker, InReach Managing Director

Shannon Baker (they/them) is the Managing Director of InReach. They previously served as InReach’s Community Outreach & Programs Director for three years.

Shannon first connected with InReach as a user and they still rely on the [free InReach App](#) to find verified, affirming resources for their family in a state facing growing attacks on LGBTQ+ rights. They bring over a decade of experience in national service, nonprofit leadership, outreach, and executive mentorship. Their leadership is deeply informed by lived experience—as a nonbinary parent of a trans child, a member of the disability community, a survivor of conversion therapy, and a formerly unhoused LGBTQ+ youth. Their leadership continues InReach’s legacy as a proud trans-led organization rooted in lived experience, community connection, and strategic vision.

Shannon’s personal journey shapes their work: growing up in a rural community marked by poverty and harmful religious doctrine, they fled their biological family as a teenager to escape conversion therapy. At just sixteen, they experienced homelessness, were unable to attend high school, and faced the same assault and trauma that many unhoused LGBTQIA+ youth endure.

Chosen family helped Shannon reclaim their future, supporting them to complete school and earn a bachelor’s degree. They used national service as an AmeriCorps VISTA to overcome poverty and build a career dedicated to social justice and community empowerment.

In their nonprofit career, Shannon has led communications, built partnerships, and developed programs that advance mental health and equity initiatives. They are passionate about mentoring emerging organizers and ensuring underserved communities have access to the resources they need.

Shannon's lived experience fuels their commitment to InReach and its mission. They are proud to contribute to a resource that could have changed the trajectory of their own youth.



Jamie Sgarro, InReach Co-Founder

Jamie Sgarro (he/him) is the co-founder of InReach (formerly known as AsylumConnect). He co-founded the organization at age 21 and served as its inaugural executive director from July 2014 through May 9, 2025. During his tenure, he transformed InReach from an initial idea into a nationally recognized nonprofit behind the world's first open source verified LGBTQ+ resource platform. Under his leadership, InReach mobilized hundreds of volunteers, scaled its free platform to include thousands of verified services across all 50 U.S. states, D.C., and U.S. territories, and connected nearly half a million LGBTQ+ people with safe, affirming resources.

Jamie secured national media coverage and the organization's first \$2 million in funding from major foundations and leading companies—within a field that remains critically underfunded. He also established numerous in-kind partnerships that fueled the organization's growth. His contributions earned him national and international recognition for social innovation, including being named to the the Clinton Foundation's 2017 [CGI U Alumni Honor Roll](#), a 2019 [Roddenberry Fellow](#), a 2020 [Forbes 30 under 30 honoree](#) in Law & Policy (North America), and leading InReach to be recognized on Fast Company's 2023 ['Most Innovative Companies' list](#).

He has advocated for LGBTQ+ rights at influential venues including the World Justice Forum in The Hague, the United Nations Headquarters in New York City, Capitol Hill, and universities across the U.S. His work has been featured in national outlets such as *The HuffPost*, *Forbes*, *The Daily Beast*, *Teen Vogue*, *The Advocate*, *The Hill*, and *NowThis*.

As a trans man who grew up in a conservative environment, Jamie understands firsthand the life-saving importance of accessible, affirming support. During his own transition, he relied on [the InReach App](#) to find verified resources—a personal experience that continues to drive his commitment to the organization's mission. Today, he remains actively involved

as a founder and governing board member, working with the organization to ensure that other trans and queer people in need can access the help they deserve.

Jamie holds a B.A. cum laude with distinction in Health & Societies from the University of Pennsylvania, a M.S. in Management from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management, and a J.D. from the Northeastern University School of Law. He is a 2025 Skadden Fellow at the ACLU of Missouri, where he will focus on advancing trans justice.

Additional Spokespersons

For information about additional spokespersons available for comment, please contact us directly.

Featured Press for InReach (fka AsylumConnect)

INREACH (FKA ASYLUMCONNECT) IN THE NEWS

June 2024 ABC 7 New York

New York City Pride 2024 March

<https://www.youtube.com/live/7360xN9dLvM?t=5405s>

June 2024 The Advocate

A tipping point for LGBTQ+ forced migration (op-ed)

<https://www.advocate.com/voices/jamie-sgarro>

April 2024 Spectrum News 1 Kentucky

First Kentucky LGBTQ+ Health and Wellness fair held in Lexington

<https://spectrumnews1.com/ky/louisville/news/2024/04/14/lgbtq-health-and-wellness-fair>

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.insightintodiversity.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

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-lgbtq-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

<https://gwtoday.gwu.edu/lgbtq-people-seeking-asylum-path-fraught-difficulty>

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