

LGBTI+ Gozo Action Plan

2019 - 2021

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Foreward

LGBTI+ Gozo executive had worked extensively to structure a queer community on the island of Gozo. 4 years ago we embarked into a journey of creating a safe space for all members of the community to believe that they do matter. We believe that within our diversity we should embrace our differences, share our successes and celebrate humanity. This action plan, the first for the island of Gozo seeks to achieve fifteen points that fall under three thematic area: Queer social group, professional services and collaboration with other organisations.

We have grown into a staple organisation that although many barriers are faced, our perseverance shines day in day out. This action plan will serve as a base for all, to work hand in hand and ensure that the Gozitan community is moving forward and in par with our Maltese counterparts. To achieve this we believe in the importance of working with all stakeholders and foster open communication on the island of Gozo.

We look forward to continuing the work being done to achieve this action and foster strategic partnerships with relevant authorities.

LGBTI+ Gozo team.

1. Research Paper

LGBTI+ Gozo aims to conduct research regarding needs of the queer community in Gozo whilst also taking in account the barriers found during their coming out experiences and the services lacked and therefore needed to be provided in the future.

2. Academy for Active Members

LGBTI+ Gozo aims to create an outline schedule of different modules and training session to attract a number of individuals; leading to them becoming an active member within the organisation.

3. Non-binary project

LGBTI+ Gozo aims to raise more awareness about non-binary individuals in the Maltese islands specifically Gozo. The aim of this project will also be to compare and contrast the lifestyle of Gozitan and Maltese non-binary individuals.

4. Continuation of the youth hub

In regards to the ongoing youth gatherings within the rainbow support service, LGBTI+ Gozo commits to continue providing the service for youths between the ages of 15 -25 to have a safe space in collaboration with MGRM and Agenzija Żagħżagħ.

5. Open training session as part of the better together campaign.

The organisation aims to continue the better together campaign started in 2015 to raise awareness regarding sexuality, gender and wellbeing. Apart from the workshops and seminars being conducted the organisation also aims to design and deliver a training session for further enhance adult learning.

6. International opportunity

In continuation of the representation of Gozitan queer community in the international sphere, LGBTI+ Gozo has submitted an application to become a member of ILGA Europe, this will provide the space for networking with other LGBT Organisations and foster a cross country collaboration.

Furthermore, the local NGO aims to foster an exchange between the local queer community and international queer community.

7. GU clinic discussion

Continuing with previous work the committee aims to further the discussions regarding a GU clinic in Gozo to cater for the Gozitan public.

8. Stronger based membership

In recent years LGBTI+ Gozo has developed from a small organisation to a staple one in the Gozitan community this requires a better administrative structure to mirror the ever-increasing base. Furthermore, the organisation aims to create a stronger active membership base.

9. Continuation of social and cultural events

This committee aims to continue creating social and cultural events for its members and other people from the public to network whilst creating a sense of belonging.

10. Office space

The organisation has highlighted the need to have a physical space not only to have a space for administrative work but also to have a space for its members and for any events, meetings or sessions.

11. Collaborating with other organisation

LGBTI+ Gozo outlined the necessity to collaborate with other Gozitan organisations and authorities, further disseminate information whilst also foster a positive quality relationship with other communities in society.

12. Professional Engagement

The NGO has discussed the setting up of a network of Gozitan professionals who give their service pro bono to Gozitan residents referred by the mentioned organisation.

13. Social Support

The organisation intends to focus more on the social aspect of the queer community such as therapeutic support, community development, poverty and any other social problems.

14. Media

LGBTI+ Gozo proposes to have a presence online to reach out further to possible future active members, whilst also providing knowledge and information to people who need it. The organisation also aims to reach out to those could benefit from any of the services offered by LGBTI+ Gozo.

15. Health Wellbeing

The organisation aims to be in contact with suppliers to provide healthcare services to the queer community specifically regarding trans healthcare, contraceptives and HIV related medicine.