

Questions for Our Community

- Do I have legal protection from gender identity discrimination in Tucson?
- Are there trans-friendly doctors and service providers in southern Arizona?
- Can I get help with my transition documentation and court paperwork?
- Will someone come talk to my group about gender identity issues?
- Is there a group specifically for the partners and families of transgender/transsexual people?

The answer to all of these questions is
"Yes!"

SAGA Meetings

The Southern Arizona Gender Alliance meets on the first Monday of every month at the Wingspan, Tucson's GLBT Community Center. These meetings consist of community news and announcements, an occasional speaker or special topic, and check-in/social time. It is during these meetings that all gender-diverse people can meet, discuss ideas, and begin to feel the strength of a community. We are open to anyone interested in the concept of gender identity and who is supportive of our purpose.

Please join us for these meetings and get information for our other events. Be yourself and dress however you like—there's no pressure. You don't need to be trans-identified to attend a meeting or get involved. We welcome allies of all kinds!

To date, more than 200 people from as far away as Switzerland and Korea have visited SAGA; thousands of others have benefited from written materials, phone calls, internet contact, conference meetings, and speaking engagements.

Helpful Terms

- **TRANSGENDER:** Someone born one gender who feels that the labels for their gender don't accurately describe them. Sometimes referred to as gender-variant or gender queer.
- **TRANSSEXUAL:** Someone who, based on their transgender identity, changes their sex to match that identity.
 - **MTF:** Male-to-female transsexual—was born male but feels that is not an accurate or complete description
 - **FTM:** Female-to-male transsexual —was born female but feels that is not an accurate or complete description
- **CROSSDRESSER:** An individual who dresses in the style and manner of the opposite gender (typically only on occasion).
- **INTERSEX** people were born exhibiting some form of "indeterminate" genitalia (subjectively judged so by a doctor to be either a clitoris that is "too large" or a penis that is "too small."), a combination of both male and female genitalia, or ambiguous chromosomes.

Important Info

SAGA office hours at Wingspan
Mondays 2-6pm or by appointment

SAGA Web site:

www.sagatucson.org

Yahoo Group subscriptions:

www.yahogroups.com/group/saga-az
www.yahogroups.com/group/sagachat

Goodrum Project Mental Health Project:

520/406-9220

www.goodrumproject.info

Wingspan Web site:

www.wingspan.org

Program Coordinator: Michael Woodward

mwoodward@wingspan.org

520/624-1779, x26

Southern Arizona Gender Alliance



What defines someone's gender?

What does it mean to be "transgender"?

Do you know of a place in Tucson to find answers to questions like these?

We do...

Southern Arizona Gender Alliance (SAGA)



**A Program of Wingspan
Community Center**

425 E. Seventh Street
Tucson, AZ 85705

520/624-1779, x26

info@sagatucson.org

www.sagatucson.org • www.wingspan.org

Join our Yahoo! Group, SAGA-AZ

Our Purpose

The Southern Arizona Gender Alliance (SAGA) provides educational, support, outreach, and other programs for transgender, transsexual, and gender-variant people, as well as families, allies, service providers, employers, and others.

We envision a society in which transgender and transsexual people are ensured of their basic rights and can be open, honest, and safe at home, at work, and in the community.

Our History

The issues and needs of transgender, transsexual, and gender-variant people have become more visible in recent years as more and more transgender people speak out about their experiences of oppression and discrimination. SAGA was established in early 1998 to help address those needs for the transgender community in Tucson.

Since then, SAGA has expanded into a viable resource from which several projects have evolved. Membership grows with each passing month, and we are always ready to embrace new members and ideas.

In January of 2003, SAGA merged with TGNet Arizona, another grassroots organization working for transgender rights, following the death of TGNet Arizona's founder, Alexander John Goodrum.

In August 2005, SAGA was adopted as a full program of Wingspan, Tucson's GLBT Community Center. Wingspan is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. SAGA is managed by a part-time Program Coordinator and the volunteer SAGA Advisory Committee.

Support Services

SAGA is first and foremost a support network for transgender people and their friends, families, and allies. We currently offer the following support groups and gatherings:

- **SAGA general meeting:** Monthly business/social meeting and general check-in; open to all (First Mondays)
- **Dezert Girlz:** Support and social group for all kinds of people who were assigned male gender at birth, but who do not feel that is an accurate description or complete expression of their identity (Second Mondays)
- **Dezert Boyz:** Support and social group for all kinds of people who were assigned female gender at birth, but who do not feel that is an accurate description or complete expression of their identity (Third Tuesdays)
- **Dezert Partnerz:** Support and social group designed for non-transgender partners of transgender/transsexual individuals (Meets quarterly)
- **Gender Outlawz:** Social group for people of all genders and sexual orientations (and anyone else who does not have a box to fit into) who want to discuss issues of gender and society (Call for schedule)
- **SAGA Advisory Committee:** Open to anyone interested in learning more about how to get involved with SAGA and make a difference in the community as a volunteer. (Second Wednesdays)

For more information about SAGA meetings and services, contact the Program Coordinator at 520/628-1779.

Advocacy & Education

SAGA's second primary role is advocating for equal treatment and equal opportunity for all transgender people through educating the community at large. SAGA is the primary resource on transgender issues in Tucson, southern Arizona, and the greater Southwest region.

- **The SAGA Speakers Bureau** provides speakers and panelists for your class, event, business, or training. To request a speaker, call 520/624-1779, x26 or email speaker@sagagoodrum.org.
- **The Arizona Transgender Workplace Project (ATWORK)** fosters open, inclusive and safe working environments by promoting an understanding of gender expression and gender identity among managers and other supervisory-level personnel. The ATWORK Project provides an enlightening, informative presentation on transgender issues and how they impact the workplace.
- **The Goodrum Project:** The Alexander John Goodrum Transgender Mental Health Advocacy Project offers support and guidance to any transgender-identified person involved with the public mental health system as a consumer, either on an outpatient or inpatient basis, or any person who has questions about local mental health services.
- **"Transitions" Youth Outreach Project:** offers mentoring, peer support, social activities, and skill-building opportunities for youth ages 13-23 who identify as transgender or want to explore gender, and offers resources for parents and families.