

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee wanted to share some resources from campus related to finding community.

*Communities play a central role in the human experience and serve as an entry for relationship-building. Strong communities provide critical points of connection and contribute to our values of belonging, care, collaboration, growth, and transformation.*

The Department of Equity, Inclusion and Employee Well-Being shares a variety of Professional Groups and Networks on their [website](#). Please check out these local and national organizations.



**Division of Diversity, Equity  
& Educational Achievement**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

The Division of Diversity Equity & Educational Achievement is hosting the annual [Affinity Group Mixer](#) next month. The mixer will be held on Thursday, January 25, 2024, at the Tripp Commons in Memorial Union.

This mixer is a fun and exciting opportunity for faculty and staff to build community, connect with colleagues across various affinity spaces, and create allyship. We will have live music, games, and prizes as we gear up for the new semester! Refreshments will be provided.

Help us spread the word about the [Affinity Group Mixer](#). Please share the event information within your schools, colleges, and networks.

## **BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) Employee Network**

### **About**

The BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) Employee Network is a group of campus employees focused on improving the overall work experience of BIPOC employees at UW–Madison through raising awareness of issues that impact BIPOC employees, advocacy, and community-building. This group recognizes that the historical systems which continue to influence UW–Madison’s culture and campus experiences can be isolating, exclusionary, and alienating to BIPOC communities. The BIPOC Employee Network’s goal is to intentionally center the voices and needs of BIPOC employees to create a campus culture and community that is more welcoming and inclusive, which ultimately contributes to enhanced BIPOC employee retention and work engagement. This group works to be inclusive of all employment categories and does not represent the university or any specific academic or work unit.

## BIPOC Employee Community Gatherings

In partnership with campus stakeholders, the BIPOC Employee Network plans and hosts monthly community gatherings for BIPOC employees on campus. These gatherings are intended to hold space for connection, care, and individual, interpersonal and collective well-being of BIPOC employees on campus.

### Community Gathering Intentions

- These are BIPOC-affirming spaces that centers the needs and experiences of BIPOC employees.
- These are community spaces intended to cultivate individual and collective care and build connection through shared experiences.
- Approach and join these spaces with care, compassion, kindness, respect and grace for self and others.
- These are non-violent spaces that honors diverse and intersectional experiences, needs, confidentiality, and pathways for shared understanding.

### Contact

To learn more about the BIPOC Employee Network or to support the network's efforts, please contact [eiew@ohr.wisc.edu](mailto:eiew@ohr.wisc.edu).



The Gender and Sexuality Campus Center (GSCC) [OutPages](#) directory seeks to foster professional relationships and mentoring opportunities through engaging LGBTQ+ faculty and staff in the creation of online searchable profiles. Until this time there has been no online platform for LGBTQ+ campus members to find one another and connect. Our vision is for OutPages to serve as a database where:

- students can find staff to support them in their own fields and interests,
- staff can find each other and build community together,
- and individuals new to the community can find resources.

We recognize and deeply respect that there are many people who can't or won't choose to be listed in OutPages due to safety concerns or personal preference. We want to affirm that there are many ways that people exist in LGBTQ+ communities and that this list is just one way to connect on campus. Any and all ways of being out- or not- are valid and important.

If you are interested and able, please join this growing online community.

The [UW-Madison LGBTQ+ Faculty & Staff Teams Channel](#) is private and will not show-up in any searches. Anything you post or share will only be visible to other members. It is hosted by the [Office of Equity, Inclusion, and Employee Well-Being](#).

For more information, please contact Jay Botsford, LGBTQ+ Employee Retention Specialist, at [jcbotsford@wisc.edu](mailto:jcbotsford@wisc.edu).