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TreadRight Foundation Partners With Rainbow Railroad

LGBTQ | FEBRUARY 23, 2022



Rainbow Railroad helps members of the LGBTQI+ community escape state-sponsored persecution and violence. (photo courtesy of Riviera Nayarit)

WHY IT RATES: The partnership provides members of the LGBTQI+ community life-saving pathways to freedom. --Janeen Christoff, TravelPulse Senior Writer

The Travel Corporation’s non-profit foundation, TreadRight, is announcing its newest partnership with Rainbow Railroad, an international non-profit based in Canada and the United States which is dedicated to bringing LGBTQI+ individuals around the world to safety.

In approximately 70 countries, LGBTQI+ people face violence and oppression simply because of who they love and who they are. Rainbow Railroad’s core program provides Emergency Travel Support to help LGBTQI+ individuals who live in significant risk find a pathway to safety in a

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financial aid to keep people safe in their current country as well as offering information and resources, coordinating referrals to local support organizations, and helping individuals understand their rights as asylum seekers. Since 2006, the organization has helped approximately 1,500 individuals escape violence and live openly and has enabled livelihood support for thousands more. The partnership with TreadRight will further Rainbow Railroad’s ability to help an increased number of persecuted LGBTQI+ individuals find safety.



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The incredible work of Rainbow Railroad is highlighted, for example, by their ongoing response to the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan caused by the Taliban’s return to power, which has put LGBTQI+ individuals at serious risk. Since August, the organization has helped close to 100 LGBTQI+ Afghans relocate to Europe and has helped hundreds more stay safe with livelihood support and evacuation to neighboring countries.

TreadRight, The Travel Corporation (TTC) and Rainbow Railroad are aligned in a shared commitment to diversity, inclusion and a more equitable future for all. TTC and its family of award-winning brands including Contiki, Insight Vacations, Trafalgar Uniworld Boutique River Cruises and Red Carnation Hotels are proud partners of The International LGBTQ+ Travel Association (IGLTA), a worldwide network of LGBTQI+ friendly tour operators who support and promote equality and safety within LGBTQI+ tourism. In 2021, TreadRight sponsored IGLTA’s inaugural Impact Award, designed to recognize a business that’s made a special effort to address the impact on the environment, communities, and diversity and inclusion.

“Increased diversity, equity and inclusion are vital to the communities we visit, as well to travelers,” says David Meany, The Travel Corporation’s Director of Partner Marketing. “Facilitating safe and inclusive travel for TTC’s guests is paramount and through our employee DEI training, we are taking steps to ensure all travelers feel welcome. The Travel Corporation’s Pride trips including Contiki Pride and African Travel Inc.’s Pride Safaris are designed to celebrate and educate about the diversity of LGBTQI+ communities around the world while providing safe travel experiences created through the lens of LGBTQI+

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SOURCE: Treadright Foundation press release.

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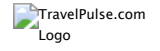
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