

## **Coming Out As a Straight Ally**

"I want to help all the LGTBQ teens out there. They need to know that they are not alone in this world. There is always someone to help them through it."

- Dan, 19 (New Mexico)

If you're straight, coming out may sound like a strange thing for you to do. In reality, many straight people do choose to come out to their family, friends, and community as a straight ally.

There is no right way to be an ally. Still, there is one thing all allies share – support for the LGBTQ community in some way. Allies have the unique ability to let others around them know that being LGBTQ isn't something that is only accepted by LGBTQ people.

Coming out as a straight ally can be tough, especially if others around you aren't supportive of LGBTQ people. But deciding to come out as a straight ally can be an important step in helping to create inclusive and accepting environments. There are countless ways to show your support, like standing up for an LGBTQ student being bullied at school, joining your school's Gay-Straight Alliance, or marching in a Pride parade.