

UPDATED MARCH 2026

HOUSE PARTY TOOLKIT

SUPPORTING TRANS
TEXANS & TRANS FUTURES

TRANSGENDER
EDUCATION

NETWORK
OF TEXAS

INTRODUCTION & ABOUT US

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OF TEXAS

Welcome to the TENT House Party Tool Kit! On behalf of the team at TENT, thank you for your interest in hosting a house party in support of our organization!

ABOUT US

The Transgender Education Network of Texas (TENT) is the largest trans led, trans focused, statewide advocacy organization in the country.

TENT is a BIPOC trans-led organization from board to staff, dedicated to furthering gender diverse equality in Texas through education, networking, and advocacy in public and private spaces.

Through our efforts we strive to halt discrimination through social, legislative, and business education.

WHAT THIS TOOLKIT INCLUDES

You'll find all the necessary materials and tips on how to host your own house party, such as:

- Ideas for events and how to incorporate a fundraiser
- TENT branding, promotion, and donation materials
- Additional support from the TENT Development Team
- FAQs



WHAT IS A HOUSE PARTY?

Community-led fundraisers make a huge impact on TENT's work and the lives of trans Texans by sharing resources, spreading awareness, connecting new people to TENT, and helping our organization continue to advocate for trans rights. Fundraising can be incorporated into many different types of community events, such as a house party with your friends.

A house party is a gathering with friends, family, and community to raise awareness about trans rights in Texas, and encourage guests to donate to TENT or become involved with trans advocacy. House parties can also include themes, food, activities, and a brief presentation on TENT or trans rights in Texas.

Whatever type of house party you decide to host, make it unique and exciting for you and your guests! You will know what type of house party elements will resonate the most with your friends, family, and community.



HOUSE PARTY SUGGESTIONS

House parties are a great opportunity to raise awareness about trans rights in Texas, advocacy tools and resources, and volunteering opportunities with TENT.

When organizing your house party, consider setting a goal for the number of guests who wish to attend, a fundraising goal, or a goal for people to sign up to our TENT newsletter!

Some additional materials and activities that you can incorporate into your house party include: a sign-up sheet for our newsletter, a Love Letters to Trans People or Trans Community Quilt making activity.

House parties generally include a presentation about the state of trans rights in Texas, and can include why you were inspired to host a house party, information about volunteer opportunities with TENT, and action items.

Don't forget to let your guests know about the house party activities and donation opportunities!

TENT staff are here to help you with fundraising tips and tools and information about our organization.

Once you are ready to host a house party, we encourage you to reach out to TENT's Fundraising Team at dev@transtexas.org so we can set up a quick 30 minute check-in to offer help and guidance.

Our team is ready to share a general presentation of TENT's work, branding materials, volunteer sign-up information, flyers, donation links, QR codes, and guides to creating Love Letters and quilt squares.



HOW TO DONATE

Donations can either be made by individual donors during a house party, or as a collective donation of proceeds following the house party. Proceeds can be donated using the following donation platforms:

Paypal: Best for individual donations. NOTE: TENT's Paypal is registered under the name of our fiscal sponsor The Level Up Project.

EveryAction: Can be used for individual donations and monthly donations, and accepts Pay with Card or ACH transfers. EveryAction does charge a processing fee.

Tiltify or Givebutter: Can be used to create a dedicated fundraising campaign for an event. Platforms can track donations made for a specific fundraising event. NOTE: These are registered under the name of our fiscal sponsor The Level Up Project.

Check or ACH Transfer: Best for large donations. If you are interested in making a donation through check or ACH transfer, please reach out to dev@transtexas.org.



FAQS

WHAT KIND OF PARTY SHOULD I HOST?

You know your friends, family, and community best! We suggest brainstorming party ideas that fit your goals for the event, and that your guests are sure to enjoy and resonate with.

I HAVEN'T HOSTED A FUNDRAISER BEFORE. WHERE DO I START?

This toolkit is a starting point for organizing a fundraiser. Our Development Team is here to offer any advice based on past fundraisers. Typically a fundraiser involves an event, promoting the event and inviting participants, sharing what TENT is about, and a donation platform. Ultimately, it's important to make this fundraiser fun for you and your community!

HOW MUCH MONEY DO THESE PARTIES RAISE?

The amount raised by a party depends on several factors, including the host's relationship with the attendees and participants and the level of familiarity the community has about TENT. Parties where guests are unfamiliar with TENT may raise less money, but will help us build strong connections to future donors. Usual amounts range between \$100 and \$1,000.



FAQS

HOW DO I ASK FOR DONATIONS FROM MY GUESTS?

It's important to let your guests know that the purpose of the house party is to raise awareness about trans issues in Texas, but also to encourage donations to TENT! You have the option of sharing the donation QR code during the event, doing an open call for donations during the event, or following up with guests afterwards.

HOW CAN I PROMOTE TENT AT MY FUNDRAISING EVENT?

If you would like to include TENT logos and QR codes in your event promotions and materials, please reach out to our Development Team for promotional materials and so we can boost your event in our networks!

If you would like to have a TENT staffer or volunteer to table at your event, we ask that you reach out at least 2 months in advance due to our team's limited capacity.

WILL MY GUESTS GET TAX RECEIPTS FOR THEIR DONATION?

Guests making individual donations made through our virtual donation platforms will receive tax receipts. However, guests who make cash donations will have to reach out directly to our Development Team at dev@transtexas.org for a donation receipt.

QUESTIONS?

CONTACT US:

DEV@TRANSTEXAS.ORG

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