The Supportive Ally Guide

How to give safe, effective and discreet support to the LGBTQ+ community.

1 Understanding the risk

- **Prioritise privacy.** Never openly discuss a person's sexual orientation or gender identity, even in spaces you believe are safe.
- **Strategic trust.** Understand that your actions and communication can be monitored or reported.
- **Avoid authorities.** Police and other authorities may not protect LGBTQ+ people; do not involve them without the person's explicit consent.

2 Practical support and logistics

- **Emergency planning.** Help create an emergency plan with a safe place to stay and a list of written contacts.
- **Safe shelter.** If you are able, offer a quiet, unrecognised place for someone to rest after a dangerous situation.
- **Emergency funds.** Help maintain a small, discreet fund that can be reached quickly for transport or food.
- **Essential supplies.** Help provide non-perishable food, water and basic toiletries for an emergency 'go-bag'.

3 Digital safety for allies

- **Secure channels.** Always use secure, encrypted communication (for example Signal) for sensitive matters.
- **No screenshots.** Never take screenshots or forward messages; these are frequently used for blackmail.
- **Location privacy.** Never post a person's location, or your meetings with them, on social media.
- **Phone security.** Keep your phone locked and do not store sensitive photos or messages that identify your friends.

4 What not to do

- **Do not confront.** Never argue with people who have outed or threatened an LGBTQ+ person; it can escalate the danger.
- **Do not pressure.** Avoid rushed decisions; focus on supporting their immediate survival.
- **Do not over-share.** Do not share the person's story or location widely unless you use vetted, secure referrals.
- **Do not judge.** Remind the person that the situation is not their fault.

DISCLAIMER

This guide is for general information only. Use only what applies to your specific situation. Safety and discretion are critical; put the immediate safety of the person you are supporting first. UmojaPride assumes no liability for actions taken based on this guide.