## **Bourne This Way (BTW)**



More than a support bubble. Over 200 beneficiaries from our monthly & weekly meet ups. Online IAG, Pride and other community events

### **My Motivation**

Due to direct and in-direct discrimination received from the heteronormative health care services.

Constant barriers and prejudices. Feeling alienated, alone and isolated with no support in Eastbourne.

Wanted people to feel seen, heard, SUPPORTED and have equal rights around wanting to start a family- however that may be.

BIGGEST CHALLENGE - To push through barriers and getting services to hear what BTW offers to the community and promote what we do for the community.

## Message to the public

BTW wants a fairer more equal East Sussex pathway for the LGBTQ+ community on their journey parenthood. We provide IAG on how to get started, support throughout your journey. Help combat loneliness, isolation and enhance people's overall health and well-being.

This requires a holistic approach from all services ensuring correct terminology is used. Not assuming nor having judgemental approaches

LGBTQ+ allies are important too. Let' come together and celebrate differences and diversity, challenge ourselves to delve into the deepest resources of our hearts to cultivate an atmosphere of understanding, acceptance, tolerance, and compassion. Support BTW by sharing, following us, work in partnership with us and support us as a CIC.

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### From our members

- "It gives space for us adults to interact, form new friendships and feel free to talk about our lives openly without fear from judgement."
- "Its great to be part of BTW it provides us a safe non-judgemental space for us and our children to see families that reflect ours."
- "It been a lifeline for me to connect with my tribe. It enhances my well -being and fills my energy tank up!"

#### **Achievements**

Having my miracle child!

Seeing BTW growing organically and giving a lifeline to people on their journey on and to parenthood.

Special News Report on TV- this got the word out to everyone and helped increase what BTW provide for the community and enhanced visibility for the LGBTQ community.

After nearly 2 years we are on a pathway to support from the maternity services which is an amazing breakthrough.

