

Funding Our Freedom

**Sustaining the Rights of LGBTIQ
People Amid Global Attacks**



Who We Are



Outright International works with partners around the globe to strengthen the LGBTIQ human rights movement, document and amplify human rights violations against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) people, and advocate for inclusion and equality.

Founded in 1990, Outright works with civil society organizations, the United Nations, regional human rights monitoring bodies, governments, humanitarian and development institutions, and philanthropic and corporate partners to create lasting change. With staff in twenty countries, Outright holds consultative status at the United Nations, where it serves as the secretariat of the UN LGBTI Core Group.

**Together for
better LGBTIQ
lives.**

**We Amplify.
We Advocate.
We Support.
We Celebrate.**

The Movement in Crisis



The global LGBTIQ movement has long been critically underfunded—especially when compared to the vast resources of those working to oppose it. Since the inauguration of Donald Trump, this disparity has grown exponentially worse. **U.S. government funding to support LGBTIQ human rights has been slashed**, along with broader efforts to strengthen democratic institutions and combat global health crises like HIV/AIDS.

Unfortunately, other key government funders—such as the Netherlands and the United Kingdom—are also drastically reducing their foreign assistance. Meanwhile, authoritarian regimes have seized the moment to intensify repression, with some further restricting rights or **fully criminalizing LGBTIQ identities** and activities.

Taken together, these developments threaten to undo decades of progress and place the lives of LGBTIQ people around the world in grave danger. As Outright’s Executive Director, **Maria Sjödin (she/they)**, puts it:

“These developments are a blow to Outright as an organization—and a catastrophe for our global movement.”

But Outright and our global network of partners will not be silenced or stopped.

In June, we are launching a bold, defiant, and unprecedented campaign to raise \$10 million—designed to sustain Outright’s work and the global movement.

This is not just a campaign. It is a lifeline. It’s a move rooted in **courage, urgency, and hope**—and it reflects not only Outright’s legacy, but the fearless spirit of our movement across the world.

\$105M

Of global funding for LGBTIQ human rights was wiped out overnight due to abrupt funding cuts from the US and the Netherlands.

Total impact. Nearly 1 in 4 dollars of global LGBTIQ funding erased.

25%

90%

Of USAID programs globally terminated, devastating grassroots movements worldwide.

Long-time institutional allies pivoting away from LGBTIQ movement support at the worst possible time.



This is No Ordinary Crisis

What's Being Lost



\$10+ Million Terminated

More than \$10 million in multi-year U.S. government funding committed to Outright was abruptly terminated, jeopardizing direct support for over **130 grassroots LGBTIQ organizations in 50 countries**—many operating in the most hostile environments in the world.



Critical Programs Halted

Including those supporting democratic participation, economic livelihoods for trans communities, emergency shelters, legal reform, and health services like HIV prevention and treatment.



Organizations at Risk

Frontline human rights defenders lost—and many more will lose—the protection and funding that keep them alive and safe, exposing LGBTIQ individuals to increased violence and discrimination. Without urgent intervention, as many as **20–25% of our grantees may be forced to shut down entirely.**

The Human Cost



Ukraine

Programs supporting displaced LGBTIQ people shut down, cutting off access to psychological care, job training, and safe spaces amidst war.



Uganda

LGBTIQ people cannot safely seek care in government hospitals due to the draconian 2023 Anti-Homosexuality Act. An organization providing free quality health services relied on U.S. funding to make rent, pay staff members, and provide critical services. Now, "our landlord is chasing us out of his building."



Myanmar

U.S. funding allowed an organization to document human rights violations by the military dictatorship and provide "legal aid services for LGBTQ individuals who were arbitrarily arrested and tortured." "Without funding, we are unable to provide emergency assistance to those facing immediate threats."



Malawi

Where same-sex intimacy is criminalized, an organization ran a safe house to provide temporary shelter to homeless lesbian, bisexual, trans, and intersex women who were facing "evictions by parents and landlords" or "high levels of violence in their communities." Due to the funding cut, "we were forced to close one of our safe houses and to turn people out onto the streets."

Our Goal is Clear and Urgent

Every dollar committed now protects and empowers at-risk LGBTIQ communities worldwide, reinforcing the global movement's critical infrastructure and ability to fight back against increased and unfounded intentional and systematic attacks.

50% Regranting to Frontlines

Immediately distributed to frontline organizations, providing resilience-building resources.

50% Direct Programming

To sustain and strengthen Outright's core programs to support local activists and global advocacy.

\$10 million by June 2026

Primarily through annual recurring gifts—to immediately stabilize, sustain, and rebuild critical global LGBTIQ initiatives.

Financial Direct Impact



\$1 Million

Can drive lasting legal and policy reform in multiple countries —fueling local movements, supporting international advocacy, and protecting the lives and freedoms of LGBTIQ people.



\$500,000

will maintain emergency response and security measures for activists facing immediate threats of violence and imprisonment.



\$250,000

helps preserve essential health care programs, especially HIV treatment, and prevention, disrupted by funding freezes.



\$100,000

keeps staff on payroll at frontline LGBTIQ organizations and revives programs that help trans women, displaced people, and others gain economic independence through job training, entrepreneurship, and skills-building.

Why Outright? Why You?

35 Years of Leadership

Outright holds deep relationships with local activists in 100+ countries and remains a trusted advocate within the United Nations, the World Bank, and major global forums.

Proven Momentum

Within just three weeks of launching the silent phase, Outright has already secured one multi-year commitment of \$1 million per year — demonstrating extraordinary confidence and momentum.

Your Leadership Matters

Your gift signals solidarity and leadership—at a moment when global visibility, courage, and concrete action are needed most.

Building Resilience

Together, we are building a future where the global LGBTIQ movement is more self-sustaining, resilient, and resourced—anchored in safety, dignity, and the freedom to thrive.



Join a Powerful Network of Supporters

Honorary Chair:



Campaign Co-Chairs:



Champion (\$1,000,000+)

Catalyze global impact and transform outcomes for entire regions.

Defender (\$500,000-\$999,999)

Lead the fight to preserve lifesaving programs and frontline activism.

Advocate (\$250,000-\$499,999)

Sustain critical interventions for democracy, healthcare, and legal defense.

Leader (\$100,000-\$249,999)

Provide emergency resources where they're needed most urgently.

Ally (\$25,000-\$99,999)

Partner (\$10,000-\$24,999)

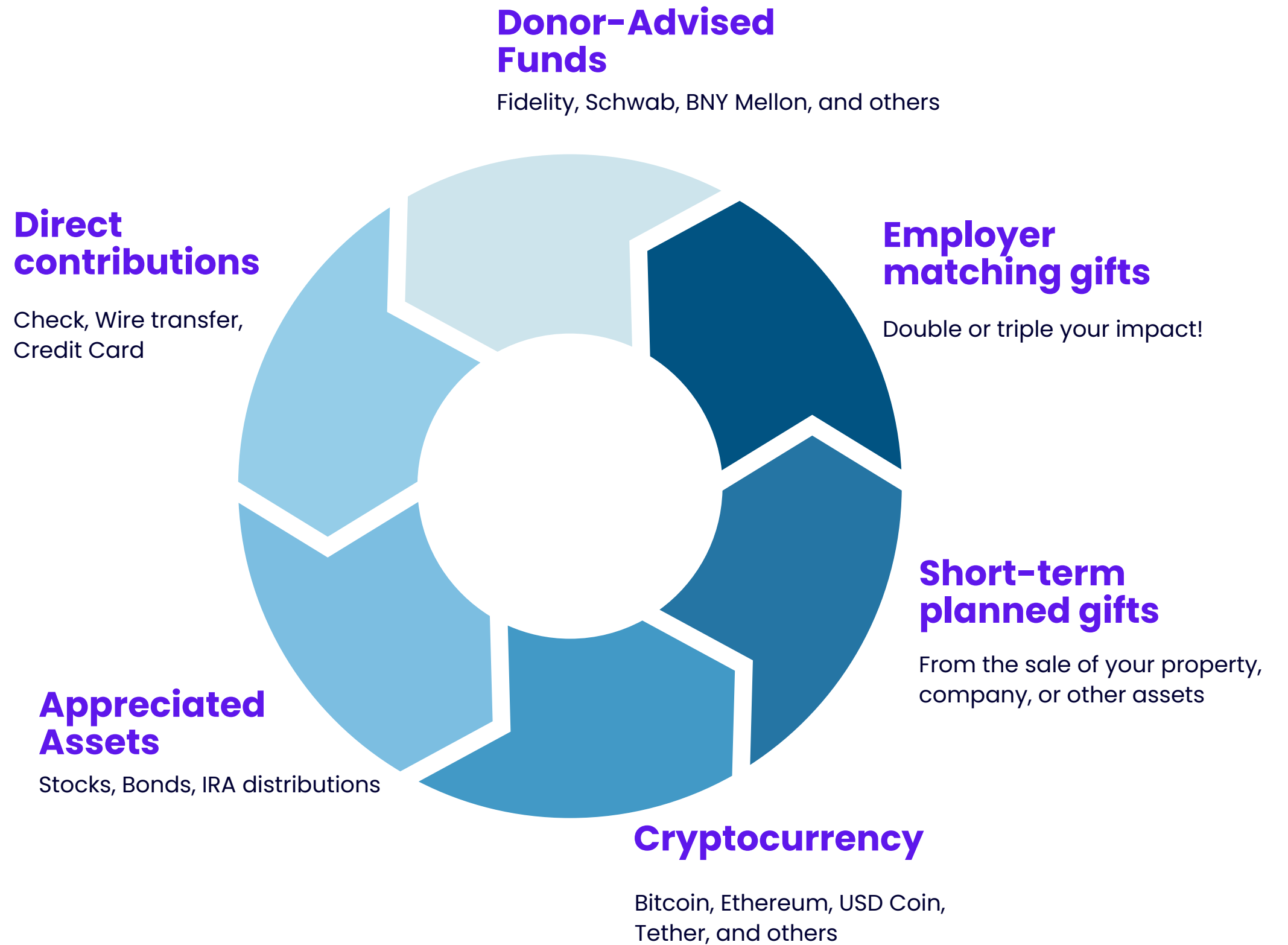
Supporter (\$1,200-\$9,999)



Giving Made Easy

Our **Donor Concierge Team** ensures every contribution is smooth, secure, and impactful:

- **Elise Colomer-Cheadle**, Director of Development
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- **Katie Hultquist**, Director of Leadership Giving
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- **Evan Davidoff**, Senior Officer for Major Gifts
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Will you consider making your pledge today?

The global LGBTIQ movement's survival—and the safety and dignity of millions—depends on **decisive action today.**

Whether public or anonymous, your generosity will inspire others, amplify advocacy, and literally save lives.



A Call to Courage

While we can't replace \$105M in lost government funding—together, we can invest strategically to keep the most critical LGBTIQ organizations alive, active, and leading.



Make Your Pledge

Public or anonymous, your generosity will inspire others.



Save Lives

Your support directly protects vulnerable LGBTIQ people globally.



Strengthen the Movement

Help build resilience against global backlash.

Together, we can—and will—secure the **freedom and dignity of LGBTIQ people around the world.**





**OUTRIGHT
INTERNATIONAL**

www.outrightinternational.org