

# SUCCESS STORY:

# PROVINCETOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

Throughout its storied history, Provincetown has served as a refuge for tolerance and acceptance. Today, our community serves as a progressive, world-class LGBTQIA+ destination known for its inclusion. We are proud of the work we do every day as a Town in partnership with our community to ensure all who live, work, and visit Provincetown feel safe and welcomed.



In 2012, the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) awarded Provincetown a score of only 59 out of 100 possible points, highlighting the need for progress in the realm of LGBTQ+ rights. However, this score didn't reflect the unique nature of Provincetown and its progressive community, spurring the Town to take action.

Upon discovering the Municipal Equality Index (MEI), Town officials reached out to HRC for guidance and quickly realized that many aspects of LGBTQ+ equality were already ingrained in our community's values, but we lacked formal policies to protect and promote them.

Provincetown's journey began by documenting existing LGBTQ+ inclusivity and pushing for policies to solidify these principles. These policies covered a wide range of areas, including all-gender facilities, transgender-inclusive healthcare benefits, and a dedicated LGBTQ+ liaison to the Executive Office.

Year after year, Provincetown raised the bar by identifying additional areas where we could further LGBTQ+ equality. This included implementing policies such as youth bullying prevention, LGBTQ+ police liaison roles, and public commitments to LGBTQ+ equality from Town leadership.

Our efforts bore fruit, and by 2016, Provincetown achieved a perfect score of 100, showcasing our dedication to LGBTQ+ rights. In 2022, the town maintained this score, accumulating a total of 93 standard points and an additional 9 flex points.

Provincetown's journey represents a remarkable transformation, evolving from a score of 59 in 2012 to a consistent score of 100 today, even as HRC's criteria have expanded. Our commitment to LGBTQ+ equality, our willingness to adapt, and our progressive values have paved the way for a more inclusive and diverse community, making Provincetown a beacon of hope and progress for others to follow.