



LGBTQ TA CENTER

Newsletter

Spring 2017 Newsletter

Dear grantees,

On behalf of the LGBTQ TA Center, we would like to welcome all LGBTQ population grantees to the next phase of your California Reducing Disparities Project (CRDP) Implementation Pilot Project (IPP)! Our team is here to support your efforts to address the critical mental health disparities facing diverse LGBTQ Californians.

As part of your comprehensive training and technical assistance (TTA), you will receive a quarterly LGBTQ TA Center Newsletter that will include project updates, upcoming events, available resources, and relevant news. Our next issue will be in early July. Throughout the year, we invite you to visit the [LGBTQ TA Center](#) website for ongoing updates to project trainings, LGBTQ news, and more.

We are excited to be working with you, and we will continually seek opportunities to deepen and improve the supports we provide you.

What's Ahead from the TA Center

As we enter the IPP phase, the LGBTQ TA Center will be working intensively with each grantee organization to understand their needs and how the LGBTQ TA Center can most effectively support them. The topics identified in these assessments will also inform the webinars, publications, and other resources that the LGBTQ TA Center will develop to support the cohort's needs.

- The IPP Kickoff Meeting took place on March 22-23
- Immediately following the Kickoff Meeting, Daniel and Ken will spend 4 weeks assessing the TTA needs of each grantee as they build capacity to implement and evaluate their CDEP. These assessments will be done over the phone and during the site visits.
- The assessment will be shared with each grantee organization and the Office of Health Equity.
- The LGBTQ TA Center team - Daniel, Ken, and the Community of Practice Team Coaches - will work with representatives from each grantee organization to develop a comprehensive plan of TTA to address the needs identified during the assessment.

If you have questions about this process, please contact your TA Liaison.



New! - Prevention and Early Intervention of Mental Health Concerns in LGBTQ Elders

The first [LGBTQ TA Center issue brief](#) addresses the health disparities that impact the mental health of LGBTQ older adults. Seniors who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning can be the least likely to access health and social services, with only 25% saying they feel "comfortable" going to a local senior center. In the United States, more than 3 million individuals over 55 identify as gay or lesbian and 1 in 10 same sex couples are over 65.

This brief describes this population's array of service needs, with consideration for intersectionality and historically traumatic experiences. Resources and best practices for supporting LGBTQ seniors in different settings are provided.

In the News: [HHS Eliminates Questions about LGBT Seniors from Major Survey](#)

For years, LGBTQ groups have advocated to add questions about sexual orientation and gender identity to the National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants (NSOAAP), which the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) uses to decide how to allocate federal funding for elder services. The Trump administration's 2017 draft of the survey eliminates these questions, which is the only change proposed.

Searchable Resource Database

New! Database of Searchable Resources to Support Your Work

The LGBTQ TA Center website now includes a [searchable database of external resources](#) on LGBTQ mental health, health disparities, and health care. The database includes research studies; census or demographic reports; policy reports; archived funding opportunities; and practical resources, such as glossaries and tip sheets. You can search by focus population, topic, or keyword.

New resources will be continually added over time in order to support the LGBTQ IPPs and the broader field. We hope you will visit the

News and Opportunities

For more Equity News, visit the [LGBTQ TA Center homepage](#), where news items and funding opportunities are posted on an ongoing basis.



[2017 National Minority Mental Health Month Theme: Bridging Healthy Equity Across Communities](#)

April is National Minority Health Month - a time to raise awareness on issues impacting health disparities and health equity in America. The theme for #NMHM2017, Bridging Health Equity Across Communities, emphasizes the collaborative, community-level work being done across the nation to help achieve health equity. Throughout the month, the HHS Office of Minority Health (OMH) will highlight partner initiatives in communities that address the indirect conditions that affect health, also known as social determinants of health.

Join the effort by sharing [graphics](#) on your website and participating in the [#Bridge2Health Twitter Town Hall](#) at 10 a.m. PT on April 12.

[AI/AN Equity Webinar: Cultural Sensitivity When Collecting Sensitive Data](#) Thursday, April 20, 10 - 11 a.m. PT

Are you interested in learning more about tribal communities and how to work with their tribal governments? This year, the Mountain States Regional Health Equity Council ([RHEC](#)) is hosting a webinar training series on the history of tribes and treaties, utilization of the National Standards of Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS), and cultural sensitivity when working with tribal communities, and the impact of cultural needs assessments. This effort is part of the [National Partnership for Action to End Health Disparities](#) from the Office of Minority Health.

[California State Board of Education Votes to Integrate LGBT History in Curricula](#)

The CSBE has unanimously approved new History-Social Science guidelines that include the contributions of minority communities, including LGBT Americans, in curricula across grade levels. The framework also adds material on voter education, financial literacy, the history of people with disabilities, and genocide. These new guidelines follow the passage of the Fair, Accurate, Inclusive and Respectful (FAIR) Education Act, a 2012 California law that requires more inclusive representation in history education.

Introducing the IPPs



The LGBTQ TA Center is proud to support the seven IPPs serving LGBTQ Californians. ***For more information about the IPPs and their community-defined evidence practices, please visit our [About the Grantees](#) page.***

API Wellness Center

API Wellness (<http://apiwellness.org>) is an LGBTQ and people of color health organization that transforms lives by advancing health, wellness, and equality. API Wellness believes everyone deserves to be healthy and needs access to the highest-quality health care.

Gay & Lesbian Center of Bakersfield

The Gay & Lesbian Center of Bakersfield (<http://www.glcenterbak.org>) was founded in 2011 to provide a sense of community, self-respect, and hope to the local LGBTQ community. The Center is the only brick and mortar community center in the county dedicated to empowering and supporting LGBTQ individuals in achieving full and rewarding lives within a traditionally conservative county.

Gender Health Center

Gender Health Center (GHC) (<http://www.thegenderhealthcenter.org>) is a community-based, grassroots non-profit in Sacramento, specializing in transgender health and mental health care. The mission of GHC is "To provide education, advocacy, mental health and other health services, to underserved and marginalized populations as an act of social justice with a focus on gender and sexual identities."

Gender Spectrum

Gender Spectrum's (<https://www.genderspectrum.org>) mission is to create a gender-inclusive world for all children and youth. To accomplish this, they help families, organizations, and institutions increase understandings of gender and consider the implications that evolving views have for each of us.

LGBTQ Connection

LGBTQ Connection (<http://www.lgbtqconnection.org>), an initiative fueled by youth and other emerging leadership, fosters a healthier, more vibrantly diverse and inclusive community. Each year, LGBTQ Connection engages 3,500 LGBTQ people, their families, and their community, and trains 500 providers from local organizations across Northern California to increase the safety, visibility, and well-being of LGBTQ residents.

Openhouse

Openhouse (<https://www.openhouse-sf.org>) enables San Francisco Bay Area LGBT seniors to overcome the unique challenges they face as they age by providing housing, direct services and community programs. As a result, Openhouse has reduced isolation and empowered LGBT seniors to improve their overall health, well-being and economic security.

San Joaquin Pride Center

Established in 2011, the San Joaquin Pride Center (SJPC) (<http://www.sjpridecenter.org>) has quickly become the central hub for the LGBT+ community within the county. SJPC focuses on intersectionality and the unique cultural challenges of the Central Valley.



Contact the LGBTQ TA Center:

<http://lgbtq-ta-center.org/contact-us/>
1-877-568-4227

The California Reducing Disparities Project's LGBTQ TA Center is funded and directed by the California Department of Public Health, Office of Health Equity, and administered by the Center for Applied Research Solutions.