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March 2021

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The Equity Newsflash is a monthly announcement featuring news and upcoming events related to supporting the health and wellness of diverse LGBTQ Californians.

**Visit the LGBTQ TA Center
Website**

News & Opportunities

**Big news:
1 in 6 Gen Z
adults are LGBTQ**



A new Gallup Poll of 15,000 adults found that 5.6% of U.S. adults identify as LGBTQ+, and more than half of these respondents identify as bisexual. Among younger adults, the numbers are even higher: 9.1% of Millennials and 15.9% of Gen Z adults (ages 18-23) identify as LGBTQ+.

[Learn More](#)

**Apply now! Get coached
on an intervention for
LGBTQ youth well-being**

Through March 31, agencies have the opportunity to bring the evidence-informed practice AFFIRM to their organization's LGBTQ+ clients. The Center of Excellence on LGBTQ+ Behavioral Health Equity (CoE LGBTQ+ BHE) is offering free AFFIRM training and coaching to agencies that serve LGBTQ+ youth ages 12 through 21. AFFIRM is a group-based Cognitive Behavioral Therapy intervention for the well-being of LGBTQ+ people.

[Learn More & Apply](#)

“I feel abandoned, but I’m not the only one”: LGBTQ Latinx and COVID-19



A recent article in The Los Angeles Times explores the complexities and challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic for LGBTQ Latinx Californians. The article examines the disproportionate economic challenges they face from the pandemic, including citizenship-related barriers to receiving social services and government aid.

[Read \(Possible Paywall\)](#)

Beyond California: new state bills threaten trans youth

Advocates say that a concerning number of state bills are targeting transgender youth, focusing on school sports and gender-affirming care. More than two dozen new bills have

been introduced so far in 2021, in what some advocates are calling a "[coordinated](#)" effort driven by centralized anti-LGBTQ groups.

[Learn More](#)

Faith organizations are split on the Equality Act

A recent NPR article highlights the religious controversies around the Equality Act, which would ban discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, if passed in the Senate. Some religious groups are concerned about the impact of the Equality Act on religious schools and institutions of higher education, while others support the Act as upholding the dignity of all people.

[Read](#)

Resources & Reports

Check it out! New reports highlight intersectional data and disparities

New reports from the UCLA Williams Institute shed light on the population and health data of LGBTQ Americans, including LGBTQ Latinx Californians. Highlights include:

- LGB Latinx older adults are seven times more likely than their non-LGB peers to experience serious psychological distress ([Health Disparities of Older Adults in California: The Role of Sexual Identity and Latinx Ethnicity](#)).
 - Black LGBT adults face disparities in mental and physical health, such as depression, asthma, and disability ([Black LGBT Adults in the US](#)).
 - State-level estimates suggest that 59,600 undocumented LGBT adults live in California ([LGBT Adult Immigrants in the US](#)).
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**A new campaign will
promote COVID testing and
vaccines for LGBTQ folx**



Equality California Institute just launched a new bilingual campaign to help LGBTQ Californians learn about COVID-19 safety, testing, and vaccination. The new campaign will involve direct outreach, virtual town hall events, social media outreach, and work with local community-based organizations. A Spanish-language version of their [COVID-19 LGBTQ+ Help Center](#) is coming soon.

Events

**Upcoming webinars and
virtual conferences**

Fostering Equity in Community Wellness and Peer Supports

Friday, March 12, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. PT | Webinar + Ongoing Affinity Group

[Register](#)

As leaders in community wellness and peer support services, we each have a responsibility to ensure that we are building and sustaining diverse and culturally responsive relationships. We navigate the world with our "backpacks" filled with cultures, history, and experiences that shape how we interact with others. Join the National Training and TA Center for Child, Youth, and Family Mental Health for an interactive learning exchange to increase your self-awareness and gain critical skills.

Supporting LGBTQ+ Youth in Schools: Improving the school experiences of LGBTQ+ students

Thursday, March 18, 9:00-10:30 a.m. PT | Webinar

[Register](#)

In this Southwest Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) webinar, GLSEN Director of Public Policy Aaron Ridings will discuss policies that support LGBTQ+ youth in schools; GLSEN Director of Education Youth Programs Sophia Arredondo will discuss school practices; and Youth Speakers from the GLSEN National School Council will speak about how these changes would benefit them.

Bisexual+ Youth: Challenging Stigma and Reducing Disparities

Thursday, March 18, 11 a.m. PT | Webinar

[Register](#)

Bi+ youth face higher rates of suicidality and intimate partner violence and are less connected to support than their lesbian and gay peers. This Human Rights Campaign webinar will look at population and disparities data, with attention to the experiences of bi+ youth of color, and it will share strategies for supporting youth with non-binary sexualities.

Helping Support Staff Better Serve LGBTQ+ Youth

Thursday, April 22, 11 a.m. PT | Webinar

[Register](#)

LGBTQ+ youth are significantly more likely to experience family rejection, violence, and abuse. As a result, they are over-represented and under-served in the child welfare system. This Human Rights Campaign workshop will explore ways that school guidance counselors, social workers, and psychologists can make a difference.

The National Latinx Conference on HIV/HCV/SUD

April 15-16 | Virtual Conference

[Register](#)

This conference highlights information and efforts to address health disparities impacting the Latinx population around HIV, Hepatitis C, and substance use disorder. Topics include young MSM, trans wellness, transactional sex work, and much more. Registration is free for the first 1,000 participants.

9th Annual 2021 LGBT Health Workforce Conference: Resilience and

Innovation

April 22-24 | Virtual Conference

[Register](#)

This conference provides an overview of up-to-date practices (climate, educational, research, and clinical) to prepare the health care workforce to address the health concerns and disparities of LGBTQ communities. This conference is designed for health professionals (e.g., social workers, psychologists), educators, and students, but all interested are invited to attend.

National LGBTQ Health Conference: Bridging Research and Practice

May 20-21 | Virtual Conference

[Register](#) | [Learn More](#)

The 2021 keynote and symposia focus on **COVID-19 and anti-Black racism affecting the sexual and gender minority (SGM) community**. The National LGBTQ Health Conference is an interdisciplinary forum that provides an opportunity for discussion of health research and programs for LGBTQ adults and adolescents. The National LGBTQ Health Conference brings together scientists, public health professionals, and healthcare providers from across the country to address health inequities.



Contact Our Team:

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