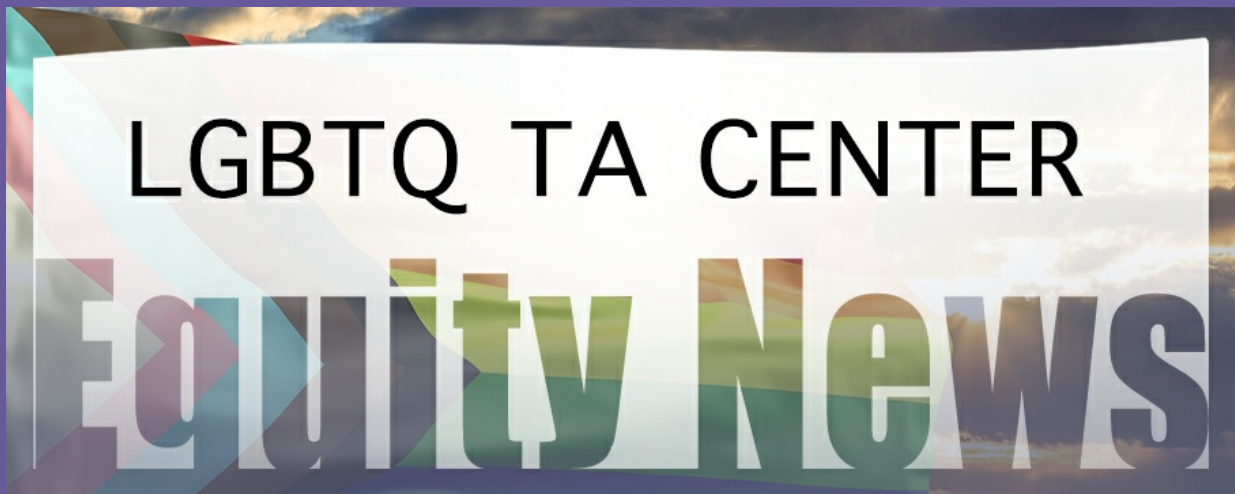


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February 2022

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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](#)

New LGBTQ-friendly state laws in 2022!



AB 245 ensures that California's public colleges and universities allow former students who are transgender or nonbinary to have their name and gender accurately reflected on their records and diplomas. AB 711 (2019) similarly covered school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools.

SB 258, the HIV and Aging Act, specifies that older people living with HIV are included among those designated as having "greatest social need" when it comes to California Department of Aging programs and services.

AB 439 adds a "nonbinary" option for death certificates. California already has nonbinary options on driver's licenses and birth certificates.

AB 1094 establishes a three-year pilot program in six counties to track violent deaths in the LGBTQ community (medical offices already collect data on gender, age, ethnicity, and race in violent deaths). California is the first state to implement such a program.

AB 1084 requires that large retailers must remove "boys" and "girls" signs in toy and child care sections, or provide a gender-neutral section for the items.

AB 476 clarifies that in the case of stepparent adoptions, the couple does not need to have been married or in a legal union for a minimum amount of time, or have a specific income or education level. This is important because some county courts have imposed requirements on stepparent adoptions that advocates say are intended to hinder the adoption process for LGBTQ couples.

AB 1184 prevents insurers from disclosing sensitive services that an individual receives under an insurance policy held by another person (such as a parent or spouse). This protects information related to gender-affirming care, behavioral health care, and substance use care.

[Learn More at the Bay Area Reporter](#) | [Learn More at Q Voice News](#)

Learn more about supporting Indigenous LGBTQ folks

A new publication from the Fenway Institute, "Health Care Considerations for Two-Spirit and LGBTQIA+ Indigenous Communities," discusses key concepts and strategies for supporting these communities. The focus is on health centers, but the information is useful to others as well; check out the excellent resource section (p. 12).

[Read the LGBTQ Indigenous Communities Guide](#)

Anti-trans laws hurt youth mental health

A new Trevor Project survey of 820 LGBTQ+ youth found that three-quarters (73%) are tracking recent news related to the transgender community, and two-thirds (66%) felt their mental health was negatively impacted by state laws restricting the rights of transgender people. Among transgender and nonbinary youth, this rate was 85%.

[Read About the Trevor Project Findings](#)

Hope to see you soon! Great events in 2022

[Time to THRIVE](#)
February 9-10 | Virtual

The annual Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Time to THRIVE conference provides a comprehensive opportunity for youth-serving professionals to build awareness and cultural competency, learn current and emerging best practices, and gather resources from leading experts and national organizations in the field.

[34th Annual Creating Change Conference](#)
March 19-20 | Virtual

The National Conference for LGBT Equality: Creating Change is the National LGBTQ Task Force's annual organizing, training, and skill-building conference for LGBTQ activists and organizers.

2nd Annual Queering Mental Health 2022

April 11-12 | Virtual

The Queering Mental Health Conference is a virtual event from Our Landing Place, a collective of Canadian counselors. Although it is a Canadian-based event, it takes an intersectional focus and addresses many topics that may be of interest to American practitioners working with LGBTQ communities (e.g., ableism, mindfulness, neuroatypicality, queer perinatal mental health, eating disorders, and much else).



Contact Our Team:

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