Dear Network members,

Thank you to everyone who has shown your support for SB 923, our bill to expand access to affirming health care for TGNC Californians. Whether you’ve signed on as a co-sponsor, called into the Senate Health Committee, submitted a letter of support, or shared our toolkit with your networks - we are so grateful for your support.

For those of you who called in earlier this month, you may have heard some disturbing testimony. Our opponents pulled their talking points directly from the playbooks being used in Texas, Florida, and Alabama. We know that there is no truth to their statements - and I won’t even repeat them. Contrary to what they would have us believe, there are mountains of evidence that access to gender-affirming care saves lives - and that stigma and discrimination continue to pervade our health care system and endanger the lives of many in our communities.

SB 923 is an important step to improving the health and safety of TGNC Californians, and we all know the fight doesn’t end here. I find myself in a place of being simultaneously proud and grateful to live in a place that is prioritizing access and inclusion - while also being horrified at the hate that continues to permeate our culture.

If you’re looking for ways to support trans youth right now, there are things we can do from California.

- Sign onto the Health Care organization sign-on letter supporting TGNC youth in Texas.
- Donate to the Protect & Defend Trans Youth Fund, or directly to one of the dozens of organizations working on trans equality.
- Donate a binder to TGNC youth
Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Amanda

p.s. We still have masks available. If you would like to request masks be sent to your community, you can email Kitty Taylor at ktaylor@health-access.org.

Screening for ACEs and assessing for toxic stress, then responding with evidence-based interventions is significantly improving the health and well-being of LGBTQ+ individuals and families. Free training is available here: ACEsAware.org

Find out more about ACEs, screening and treatment here: ACEsAware.org

#OutAboutACEs #ACEsAware

Visit our landing page:
bit.ly/outaboutaces

Message to LGBTQ People
The Network has a webpage dedicated to COVID-19 impacts on LGBTQ Californians, which is being updated frequently. Additionally, please click here to find useful social media graphics and visit our Youtube channel to watch previous webinars.

**Share messages for our LGBTQ+ community and help them stay safe during COVID-19**

Did you know sex workers can reduce COVID-19 risks too? Protect yourself, your clients, and your community by moving to non-contact ways of doing work such as over the phone or video. Visit covid19.ca.gov for useful information and resources.

#LGBTQplusCOVID
USC is currently seeking volunteers for their cigarette smoking research study. They’re looking for LGBTQ+ couples who are smokers and are interested in quitting.

It is a remote study and compensation is available for eligible participants who complete the study.

To learn more, visit the link below!
**Trans Health**

**IMPORTANT UPDATES REGARDING UCLA TRANS RESEARCH STUDY!**

"The UCLA Trans research study was designed to purposefully cause mental health distress in order to trigger “dysphoria.” This included having participants wear tight leotards while taking photographs of their body. We were asked for input about why they had a low retention of trans participants and found the researchers unable to comprehend why this study is harmful. The researchers were falsely advertising this study without clarity about the expectations of participants and without consideration of being trauma informed and the need for direct access to mental health after care."

**It was in collaboration with you all, our community and family, that we were able to successfully halt this study and protect TGI folx.**

Read more [here](#).

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**SUPPORT SB 923 - The TGI Inclusive Care Act**

SB 923 aims to provide a model for trans inclusive care. Specifically, this bill requires evidence-based cultural competency training under continuous medical education. Health plans will have available through their call center and webpage, a list of all in-network providers who offer gender-affirming services. Lastly, the Health and Human Services Agency will convene a working group comprised of various representatives to develop quality standards with input from at least 3 TGI-serving organizations who will recommend training curriculum. This legislation will help create a more inclusive and culturally competent healthcare system for TGI people across California.

**How you can support:**

We are asking organizations to submit and share our [template letter of support for Senate Appropriations](#) with your networks -- as of now we are asking people to submit letters by **Monday May 2**, but this deadline may be extended depending on what we hear from the author’s office. You can share our [updated factsheet](#) and [Social Media Toolkit](#) too!
Best Practice Guide in Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) in Transgender and Nonbinary (TNB) Health

Best Practice Guide (English)
Best Practice Guide (Spanish)

CBPR is a Best Practice in TNB Health
Watch the video below!

LGBTQ News and Resources

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) strengthens efforts to prevent domestic and sexual violence and protect survivors.

VAWA is important to the health and well-being of LGBTQ people, who face high rates of domestic and sexual violence.

Read more

Kaiser Permanente SoCal named LGBTQ+ Healthcare Equity Leader

Read more

Students Across the Country are Going Silent to Protest Against Anti-LGBTQ Laws

Read more
Upcoming Events

The California Department of Public Health invites you to attend the Service Provider Capacity Building (SPCB) RFA Townhall for the LBTQ Health Equity Initiative. This meeting will discuss the second of three major funding opportunities of the LBTQ Health Equity Initiative, focused on increasing service provider capacity to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate healthcare to LBTQ communities through community-led training and technical assistance. CDPH anticipates releasing the SPCB RFA for application in July 2022.

The meeting will be held on **Thursday, May 26, 2022, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (PST)**. The Department is interested in soliciting your opinions on how to proceed forward with the upcoming SPCB RFA.

**Click here** to register in advance for this meeting. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

The LGBTQ Center OC presents their 2022 Virtual LGBTQ Youth Convening.

Join them May 14th & 21st for a free two-day online conference that is organized and led by youth leaders from Youth Empowered to Act, a coalition of LGBTQ student leaders and their allies devoted to gender, racial, reproductive, and restorative justice issues in Orange County.

The National LGBT Cancer Network is looking for three amazing people with

### Register Here
Join the first annual LGBTQ+ Behavioral Health Convening, where community-based organizations and advocacy groups will convene to build capacity and create pipelines to decision makers at the state and regional levels.

At this convening, LGBTQ+ organizations and stakeholders will engage in “call-to-action” style discussions related to:

- Current policy and political climate in the Behavioral Health space,
- Trends in the Behavioral Health field and LGBTQ+ community,
- Network and capacity building opportunities,
- And ongoing mechanisms of engagement.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Indigenous Pride LA 2022
Sunday October 9, 2022
"Reclamation and Reconnection to Our Two Spirit Identity"
For more information, visit indigenouspridela.org

For more info folx can email indigenouspridela@gmail.com
To have your events or announcements listed on our newsletter, please email: awallner@health-access.org.