2022
LGBTQ NETWORK
SUCCESSES
THE NETWORK EXPANDS TEAM AND LEADERSHIP!

In 2022, there were several staff promotions including Dannie Ceseña becoming the Director of the CA LGBTQ HHS Network. Additionally, Isaias Guzman was promoted to Program Coordinator, Ariela Cuellar became Communications Specialist, and Kitty Taylor is now the Office Manager. Lastly, the Network brought on Mallery Jenna Robinson and Astin Williams as Network Organizers to support the #Out4MentalHealth project and Network programs.

WE BREATHE PROGRAM UPDATES

In October 2022, We Breathe released its Policy Platform which includes tobacco-control policy recommendations for LGBTQ+ communities and more! We Breathe continued to build partnerships and trainings with various organizations including Kick It CA, UCLA HHIPP, and the National LGBT Cancer Network. We Breathe will continue to work towards reducing LGBTQ+ tobacco-related disparities and addressing the root cause of tobacco usage among LGBTQ+ Californians.

#O4MH PROGRAM UPDATES

#Out4MentalHealth released its 2021 Report "Journey Together: The Annual State of LGBTQ Communities" which provides detailed information about the #Out4MentalHealth Project, local LGBTQ community needs and advocacy, findings from the 2021 LGBTQ Mental Health Policy Priorities Survey, and our California LGBTQ Mental Health Policy Agenda. The #O4MH program also expanded its partner organizations to 15 Local Level Entities from across CA! From Humboldt to Imperial County, the program is excited to work alongside various LGBTQ+ communities to improve affirming mental health care access for all LGBTQ+ Californians.

CONTINUED RESPONSE TO COVID-19 AND MPX

The Network has continued to prioritize the health and safety of LGBTQ+ Californians during ongoing statewide health emergencies such as COVID-19 and MPX (monkeypox).

The Network has various resources, information, and social media toolkits to promote safety during these unprecedented times.

POLICY WINS AND LOOKING AHEAD AT 2023

The Network partnered with various Trans-led organizations and Senator Wiener to get SB 923, a 1st-in-the-nation bill, signed into law by Governor Newsom in September 2022. This legislation will help improve healthcare access for TGI Californians.

The Network is committed to advancing health and wellness among all LGBTQ+ communities. The work has yet to be finished, and we will continue to create policy and programming that prioritizes the health needs of all LGBTQ+ Californians. We look forward to the work ahead in 2023.