

THE INSTITUTE FOR INNOVATION & IMPLEMENTATION

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SOGIE Resources Newsletter July 2019

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Community Corner

Community Corner is a place where you can share news about work you are doing with young people with diverse SOGIE (sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression). To submit information about your program to be highlighted in this newsletter, please email theinstitute@ssw.umaryland.edu.

New Video Highlights Prince George's County Inclusion Work with Human Rights Campaign Foundation's All Children - All Families



The Human Rights Campaign Foundation's All Children - All Families project just released its annual report, "[Celebrating Everyday Change-Makers in Child Welfare](#)," which highlights 70-plus child welfare agencies across the country that have partnered with the project over the last year to improve their services for the LGBTQ community. In conjunction with the report, the

project released a [powerful new video](#) showing the impact of LGBTQ inclusion work. The video features Prince George's County Department of Social Services, one of the Quality Improvement Center implementation sites, and Nakiya Lynch, who is one of the young adult consultants on the project.

[Watch here](#)

Practical Tools

Protect Trans Health Website Makes it Easy to Comment on Regulations



Have you ever submitted a public comment? Are you unsure of where to begin? The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has proposed a regulation that would undermine the Health Care Rights Law by stating discrimination against trans people is legal in health care settings. The HHS is required to get feedback on the

proposed change through public comments. A large number of public comments can lead to a proposed regulation being slowed down, changed, or even abandoned. The National Center for Transgender Equality has partnered with Transgender Law Center to create [Protect Trans Health](#), a website that walks you through the process of how to submit a public comment on this regulation, including tips on ways to make your comment effective. *Public comments will be accepted through Aug. 13.*

[Submit a comment now](#)

Network and Directory of Pro-LGBTQ Latinx Mental Health Practitioners

The Latinx Therapists Action Network (LTAN) directory includes licensed and culturally grounded Latinx mental health practitioners who believe in the human rights of migrant people. LTAN is pro-black, pro-woman, pro-queer, pro-trans, pro-working class, pro-differently abled, pro-indigenous, and pro-immigrant.



[Learn more about LTAN](#)

Upcoming Webinar

LGBTQ Muslims Do Exist: Knowledge, Awareness, and Counseling Skills for Working with LGBTQ Muslim Clients

Friday, July 12 | 1-2 P.M. CDT/ 2-3 P.M. EDT



Identification as a person who is LGBTQ is not an identity that precludes Muslim-identified people. This webinar will present knowledge about LGBTQ Muslims, ways to support this population, and implications for clinical practice. Jahaan Abdullah is a board-certified licensed counselor in Illinois who has published and presented around the world on social justice issues, issues impacting marginalized groups, counseling marginalized populations, and other topics relating to and impacting mental health. This is presented through the Illinois Association for LGBT Issues in Counseling.

[Register here](#)

Articles/Research

Youth in Foster Care See Higher Roadblocks Than Others in System

Foster youth who identify as LGBTQ face significantly more hurdles in their educational path, experiencing harassment, homelessness, and depression at higher rates. Until recently there has been little research focusing on this group of foster youth because federal laws don't yet require social service workers to gather information about foster youth's sexual orientation or gender identity. The data that does exist, however, shows that LGBTQ foster youth tend to show lower school functioning than other foster youth because of greater instability in their lives.



[Read here](#)

Political Controversies About Marginalized Groups Increase Bullying

A new study of data from nearly 5 million California students finds that controversies over proposed laws involving marginalized groups can contribute to an increase in bullying linked to students' identity. The researchers focused on homophobic bullying around

Policy News

Illinois Senate Directs Auditor General to Evaluate Care to LGBTQ Youth in Department of Children and Family Services



The Illinois Senate recently passed SR 403, which directs the state auditor general, Frank J. Mautino, to conduct a performance audit of the Department of Children and Family Services' (DCFS) compliance with its obligations to protect and affirm children and youth who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, or queer. Per the resolution, the audit will require reporting of: frequency of training employees and contractors on LGBTQ identities, how youth in DCFS care are made aware of their rights and how to report violations, existing oversight structure and corrective actions, processes on matching LGBTQ youth with foster parents, and actions taken by DCFS to ensure that foster homes are affirming, among other things.

[Learn more](#)

World Health Organization Removes 'Gender Identity Disorder' Diagnosis

The World Health Organization (WHO) approved a major change to its global manual of diagnoses on May 25 that will greatly benefit transgender people around the world. The World Health Assembly, the WHO governing body that represents 194 member states, voted for new diagnostic guidelines that no longer describe gender nonconformity as a "mental disorder." Historically, many medical systems, including those supported by the WHO, have categorized being transgender as a mental health condition. But an evolving scientific understanding of gender and tireless advocacy by transgender activists around the world were crucial in bringing about this development.



[Learn more](#)

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