



NATIONAL LGBT HEALTH  
EDUCATION CENTER

A PROGRAM OF THE FENWAY INSTITUTE

**HIV TAC TEAM**



## **Engaging and Linking Young MSM (Men Who Have Sex with Men) into Health Care**

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Presenter: Dwayne Steward  
October 8, 2015

# Disclaimer

This project was supported by a cooperative agreement from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) with \$449,994 (0% financed with nongovernmental sources). The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement by, HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.



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**Dwayne Steward**  
**October 8, 2015**

# Continuing Medical Education Disclosure

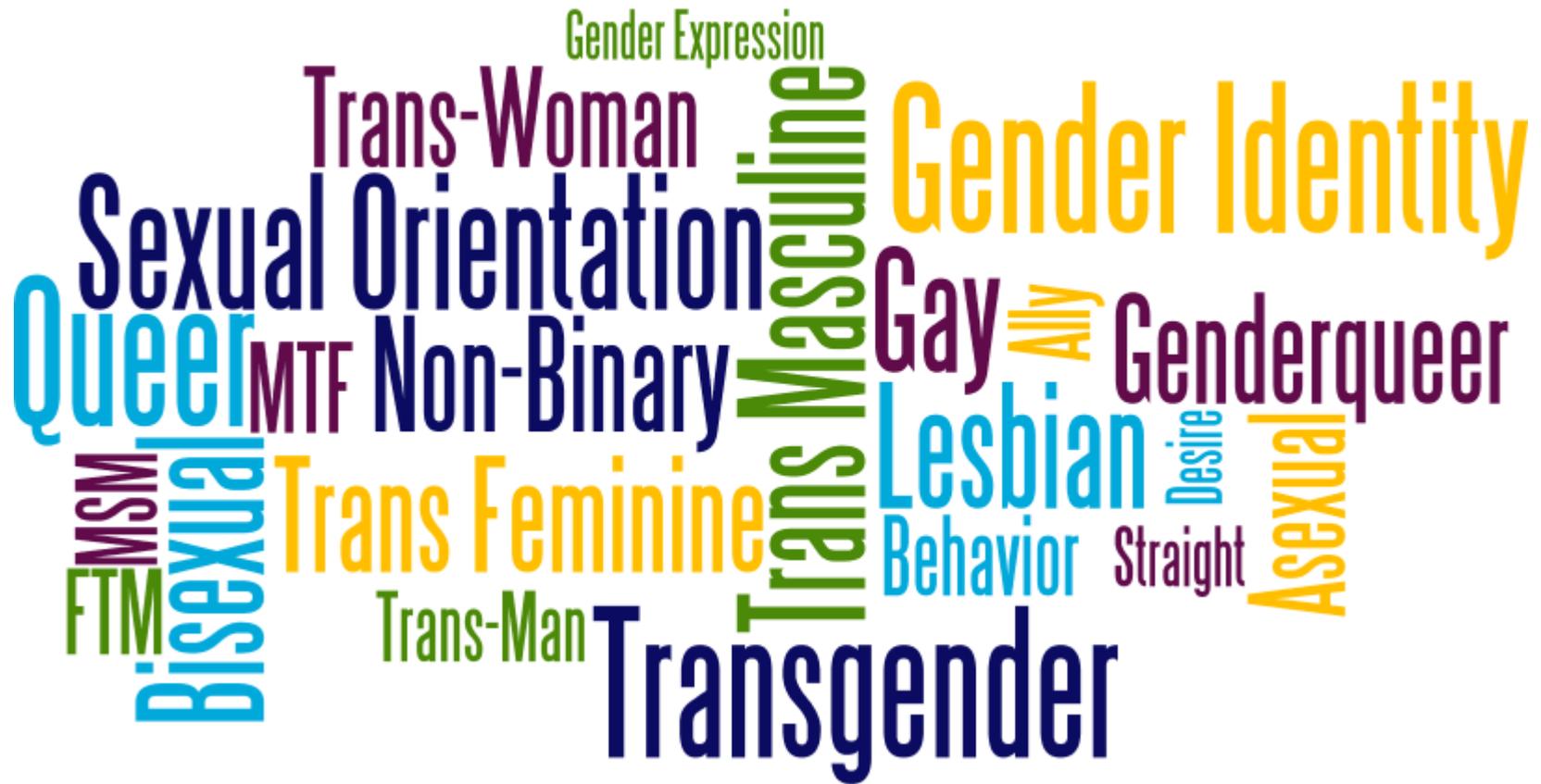
- **Program Faculty: Dwayne Steward**
- **Current Position: Community Engagement Coordinator | The Fenway Institute**
- **Disclosure: No relevant financial relationships. Presentation does not include discussion of off-label products.**

It is the policy of The National LGBT Health Education Center, Fenway Health that all CME planning committee/faculty/authors/editors/staff disclose relationships with commercial entities upon nomination/invitation of participation. Disclosure documents are reviewed for potential conflicts of interest and, if identified, they are resolved prior to confirmation of participation. Only participants who have no conflict of interest or who agree to an identified resolution process prior to their participation were involved in this CME activity.

# Learning Objectives

1. Summarize the state of health care among young MSM in the United States.
2. Describe the intersections of race, stigma, and health equity and its importance as it relates to community engagement and LTC.
3. Discuss importance of cultural competency and identify best practices for linking, engaging, and retaining young MSM in health care.
4. Describe evidence-based examples of successful community engagement and LTC within young MSM populations.

# What's in a word?



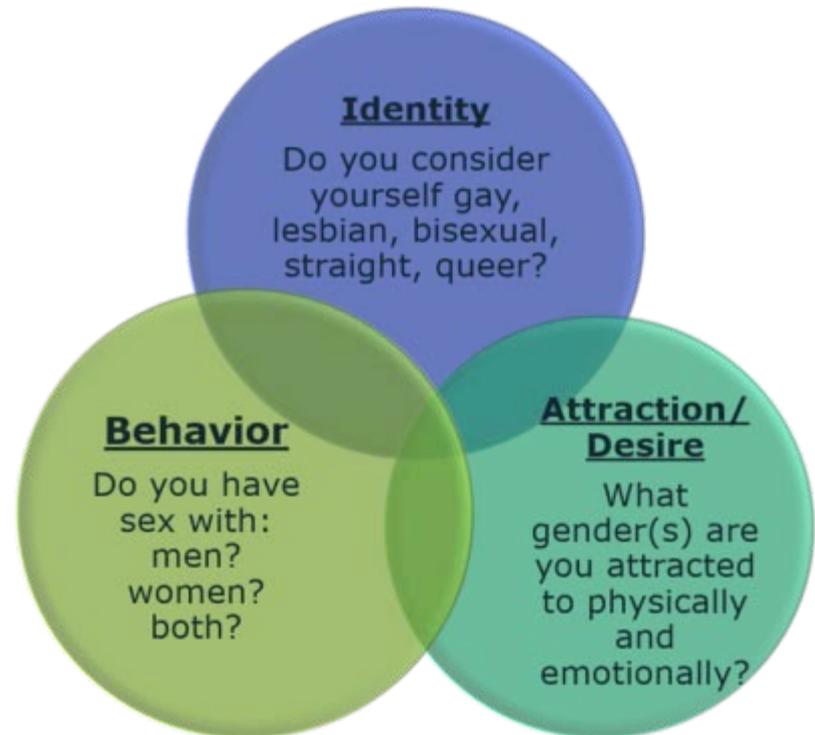
# Terms Overview

- Lesbian
- Gay
- Bisexual
- Transgender
- Queer
- Questioning
- Intersex
- Asexual
- Ally
- MSM
- Bisexual
- Gay
- Heterosexual MSM
- Transgender MTF – **not MSM!**

# Sexual Orientation

- Sexual orientation: how a person identifies their physical and emotional attraction to others
- Desire
- Behavior:
  - Men who have sex with men-MSM (MSMW)
  - Women who have sex with women-WSW (WSWM)
- Identity:
  - Straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, queer--other

## Dimensions of Sexual Orientation:



# Health Disparities Among MSM



“LGBTQ YOUTH WHO EXPERIENCE FAMILY AND CAREGIVER REJECTION ARE MOST AT RISK FOR SERIOUS HEALTH PROBLEMS IN ADULTHOOD.”

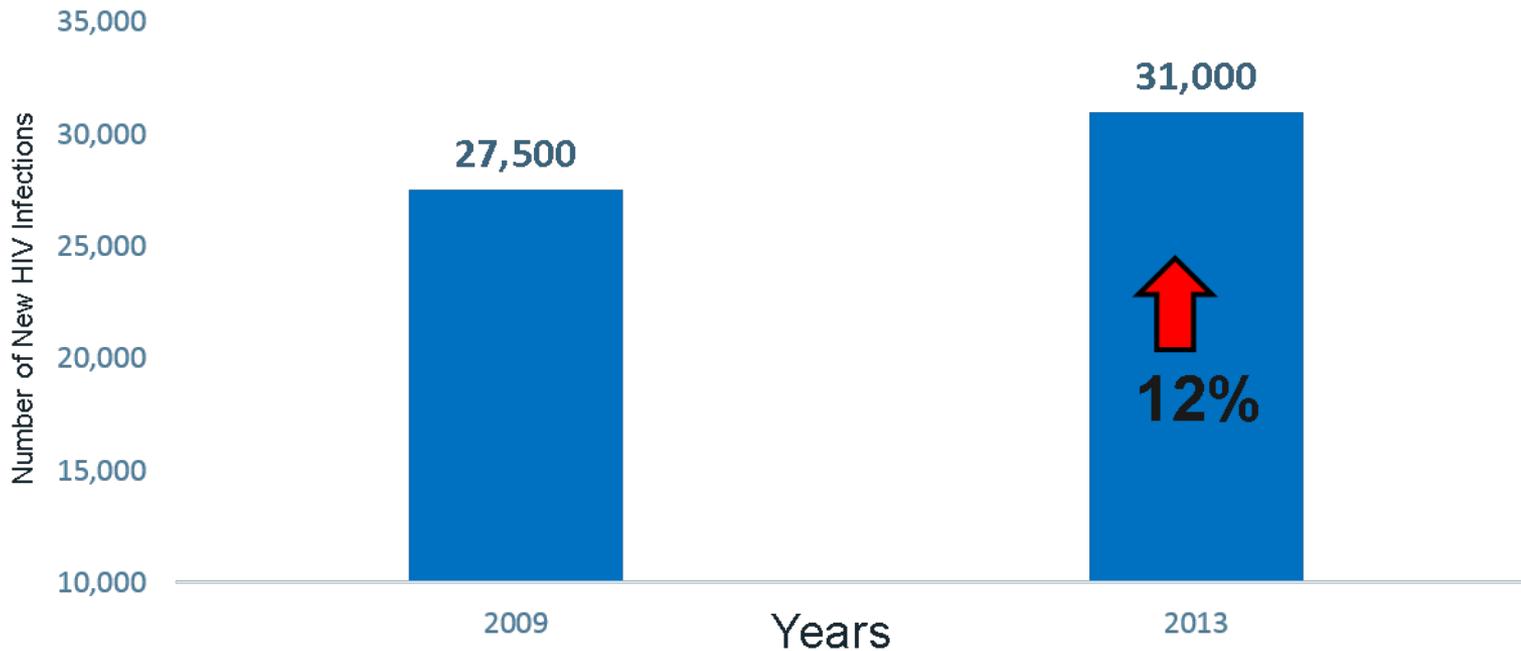
# Question: Which of the following health disparities have **not** been found among young MSM?

- HIV
- Substance use
- Respiratory illness
- Homelessness
- Suicide risk

# Health Disparities: HIV

## Estimated New HIV Infections among MSM

2009-2013



CDC, 2013

CDC, 2015

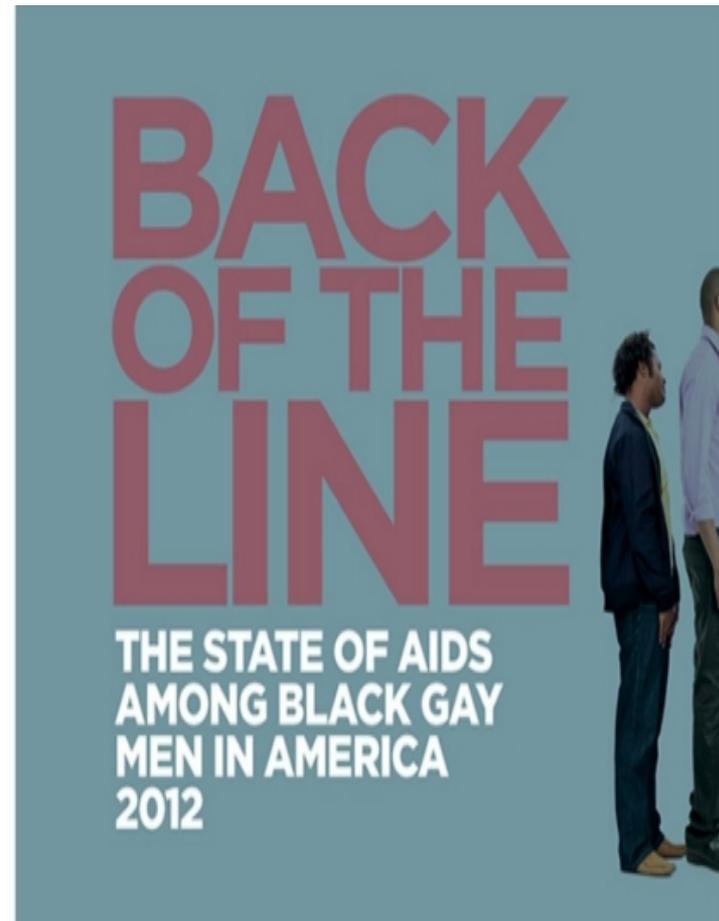


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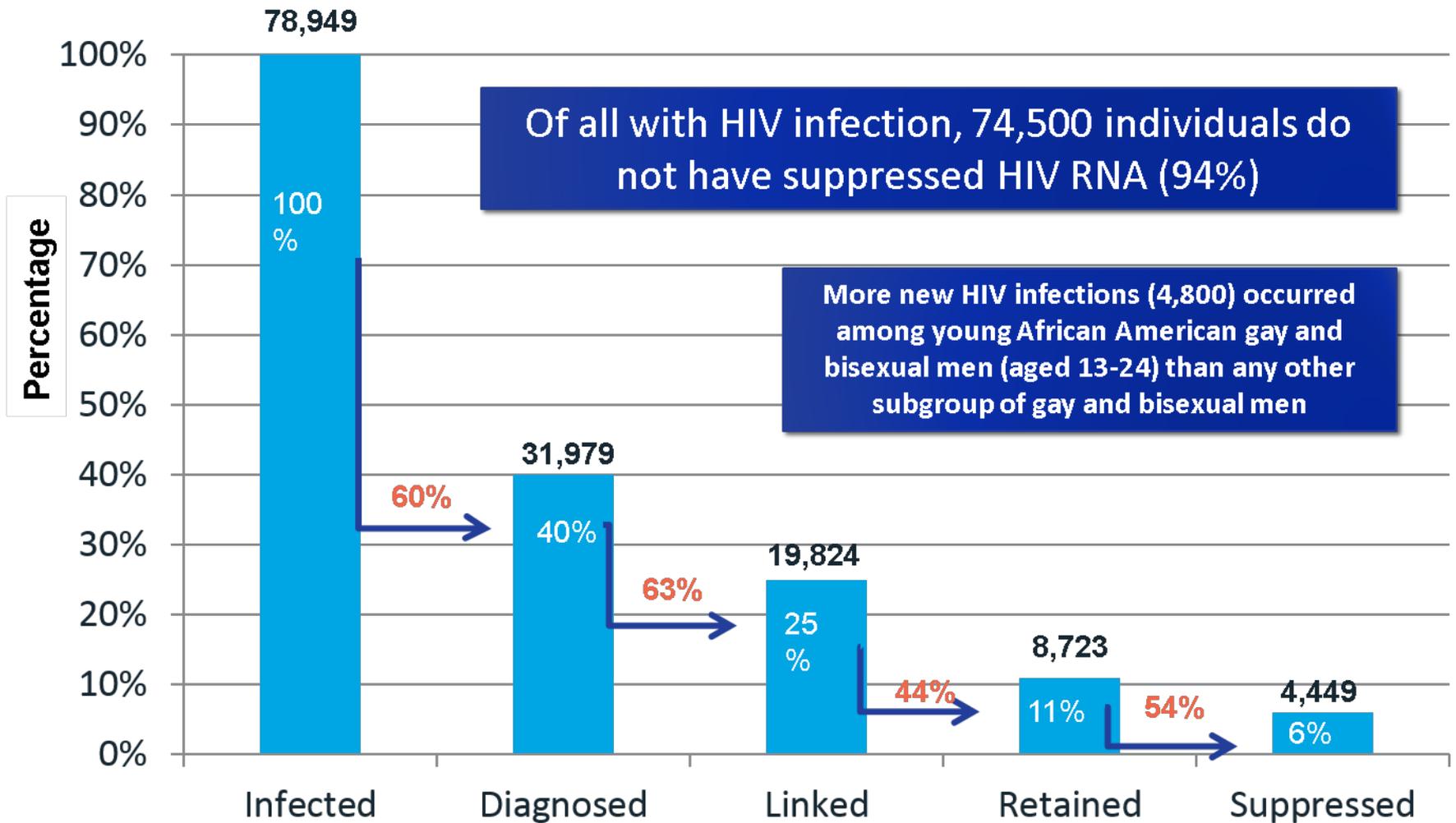
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# Health Disparities: HIV

- African Americans make up more than half of PLWHIV
- MSM of color are still the population with the highest infection rates in the US
- “By the time a Black gay man reaches age 20, he stands a roughly one-in-eight chance of being infected with HIV. By age 40, the odds reach an astonishing 60%”



# Youth Continuum of HIV Care



AIDS PATIENT CARE and STD's Volume 29, Number 3, 2014

# Health Disparities: Suicide

**Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death among young people ages 10 to 24.**

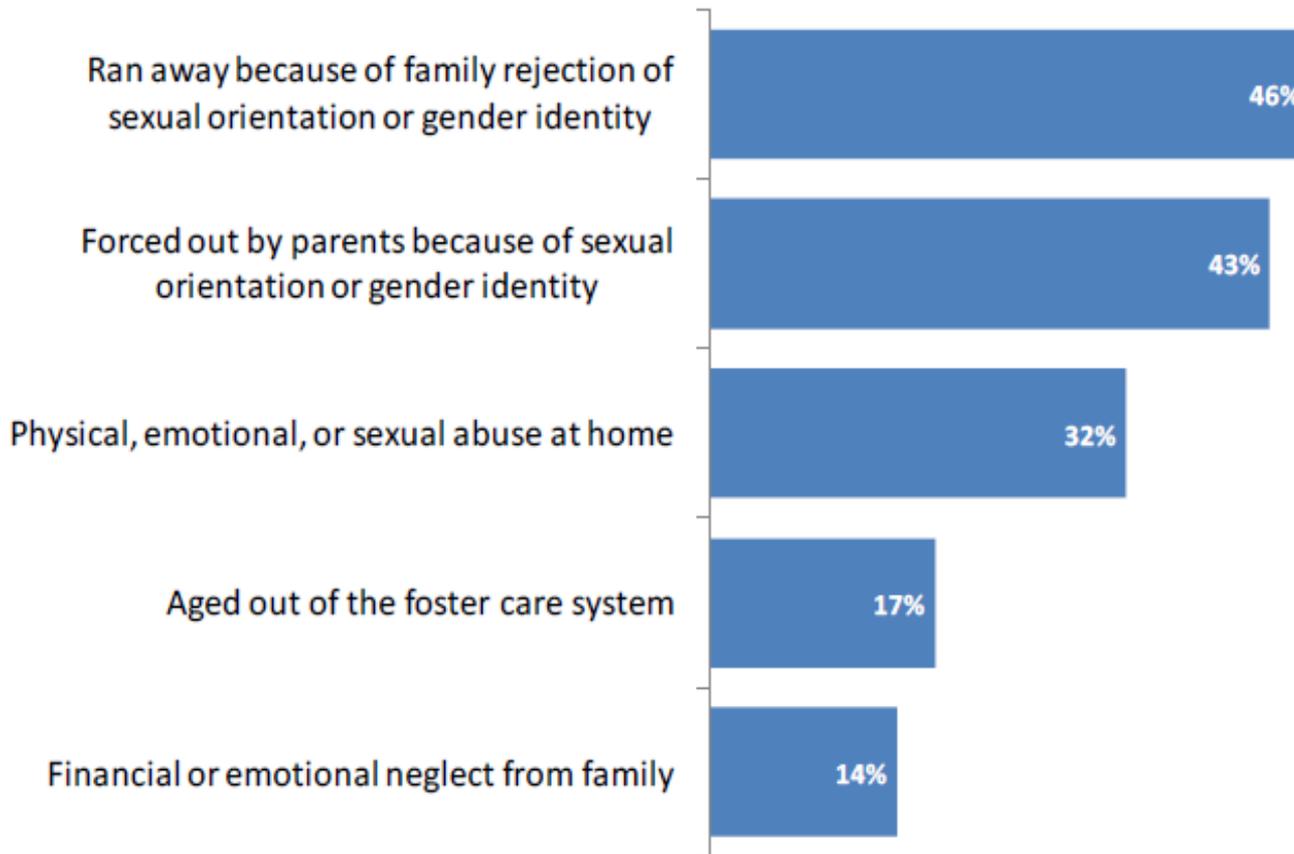
- LGB youth are 4 times more likely, and questioning youth are 3 times more likely, to attempt suicide as their straight peers.
- Nearly half of young transgender people have seriously thought about taking their lives, and one quarter report having made a suicide attempt.
- LGB youth who come from highly rejecting families are 8.4 times as likely to have attempted suicide as LGB peers who reported no or low levels of family rejection.
- Suicide attempts are nearly two times higher among Black and Hispanic youth than White youth.

# Health Disparities: Homelessness

- 40% of the homeless youth served by agencies identify as LGBT
- 43% of clients served by drop-in centers identified as LGBT
- 30% of street outreach clients identified as LGBT
- 30% of clients utilizing housing programs identified as LGBT
- In some major cities 60% of the homeless youth population identifies as LGBT

# Health Disparities: Homelessness

Top five reasons why LGBT youth are homeless  
or at-risk of becoming homeless  
(n=381)



# Health Disparities: Alcohol/Drug Abuse

- 25 percent of gay and transgender people abuse alcohol, compared to 5 to 10 percent of the general population, according to SAMHSA (Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration)
- MSM are 3.5 times more likely to use marijuana than men who do not have sex with men
- MSM are also 12.2 times more likely to use amphetamines than men who do not have sex with men
- MSM are also 9.5 times more likely to use heroin than men who do not have sex with men
- These statistics are much higher among LGBT youth

# Health Disparities: Access to Care

Table 2: Health care professionals refused to touch me or used excessive precautions

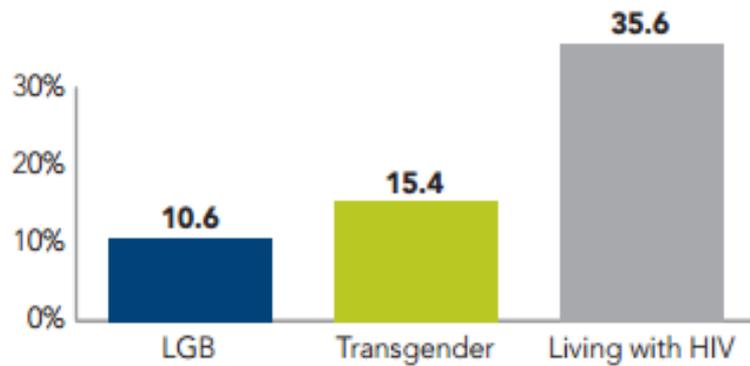


Table 4: Health care professionals blamed me for my health status

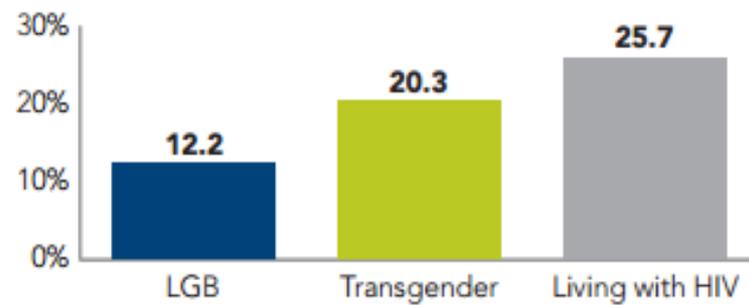


Table 3: Health care professionals used harsh or abusive language

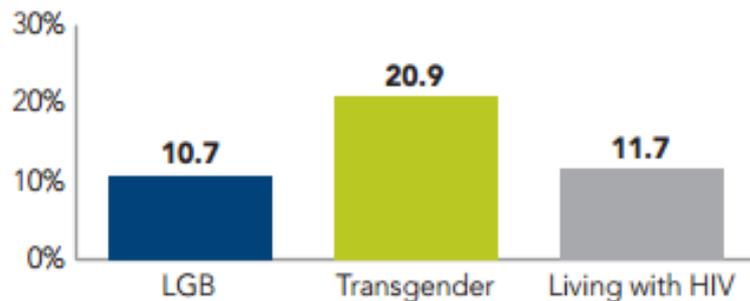
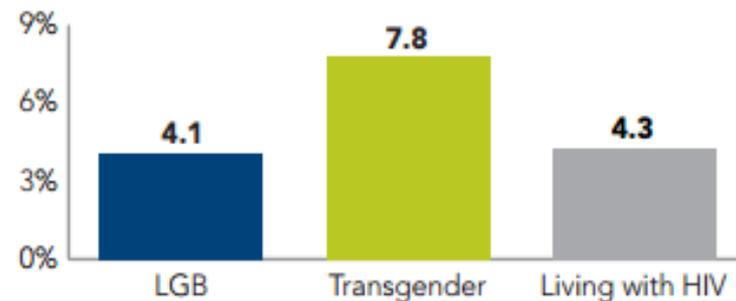


Table 5: Health care professionals were physically rough or abusive

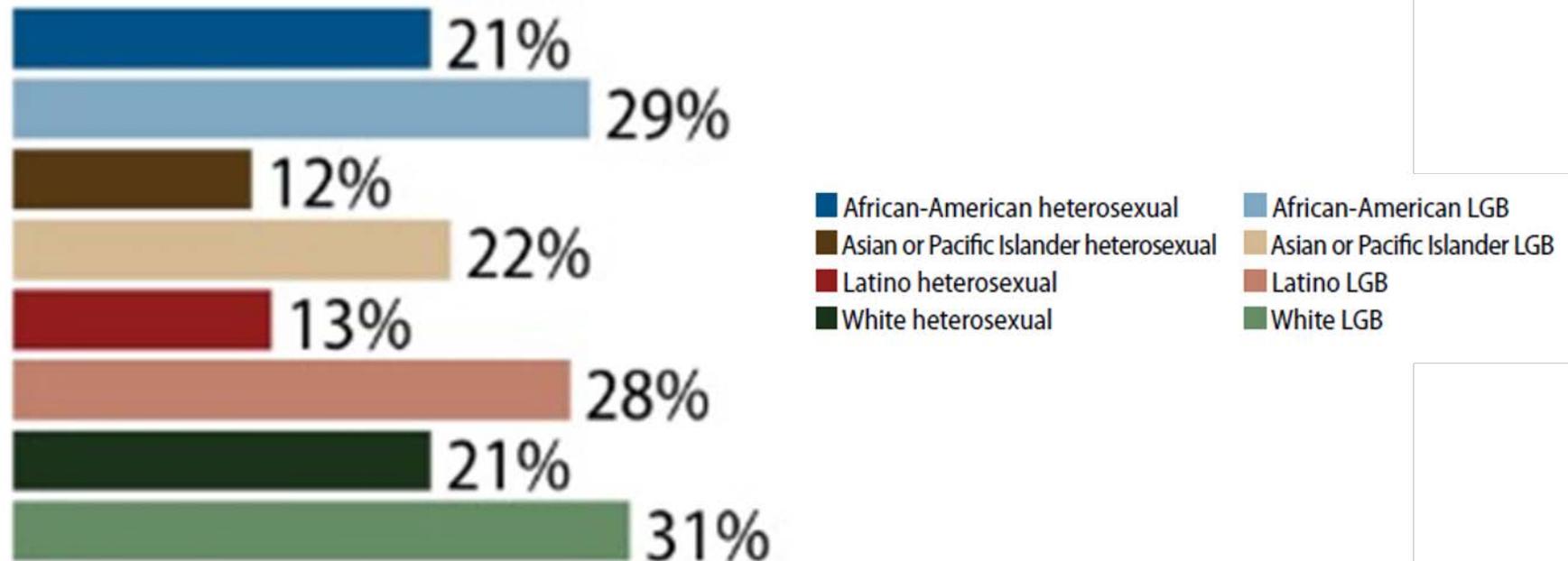


# Health Disparities: Access to Care

Center For American Progress

“How to Close the LGBT Health Disparities Gap”

% of adults delaying or not seeking health care



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# Question: How would you rate your organization's current linkage to care (LTC) and community engagement efforts for young MSM?

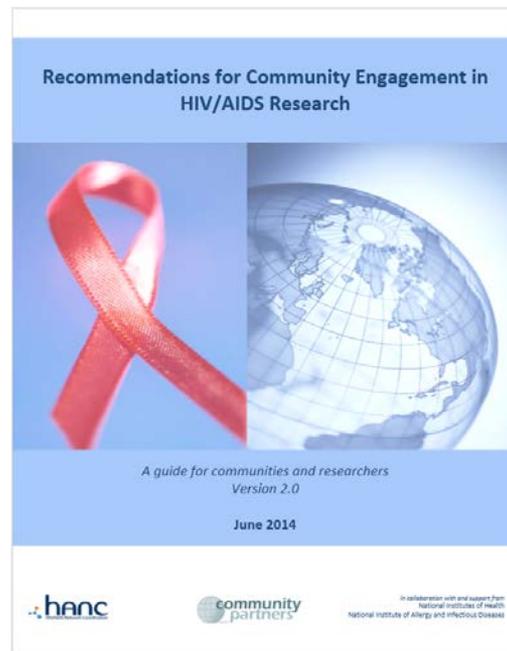
- A: Poor
- B: Fair
- C: Good
- D: Excellent
- E: Not applicable

# Tools for Implementing Community Engagement

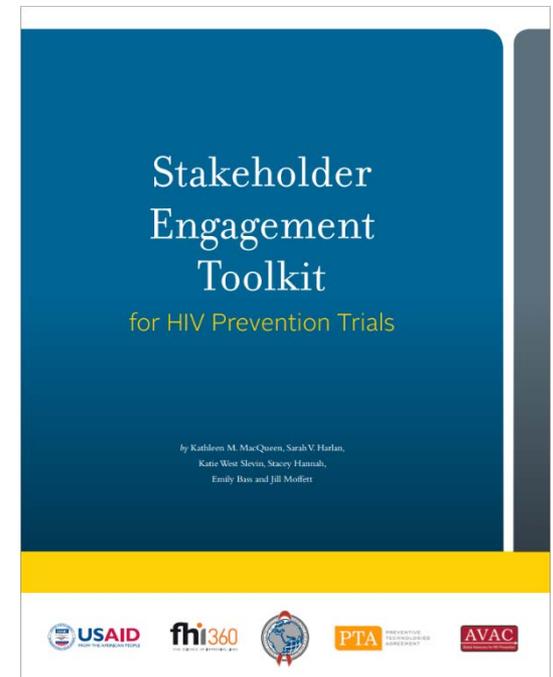
## Good Participatory Practice (UNAIDS, AVAC)



## Recommendations for Community Engagement in HIV/AIDS Research (HANC, NIAID)



## Stakeholder Engagement Toolkit for HIV Prevention Trials (FHI360)



# Principles of Community Engagement

Set Clear Goals

Learn About Community

Develop Cultural Competency

Foster Transparency

Build Partnerships and Trust

Provide and Promote Capacity Building

Maintain a Long-Term Commitment



# Community Involvement

- The community must inform your strategic plan
- Schedule regular community conversations
  - Art of Hosting:  
[www.artofhosting.org](http://www.artofhosting.org)
- Community Advisory Boards
- Stakeholder relationship building



# Consequences of Poor Community Engagement

- Mistrust
- Tokenism
- Duplication of efforts
- “Echo Chamber”
- Poor recruitment/retention



Clinicians love data and evidence,  
but communities love stories.

Community engagement requires  
telling a compelling story.

# Health Equity & Cultural Humility

**“POVERTY IS NOT AN ACCIDENT. LIKE SLAVERY AND APARTHEID, IT IS MAN-MADE AND CAN BE REMOVED BY THE ACTIONS OF HUMAN BEINGS.”**

*-Nelson Mandela*



# Cultural Competency Defined

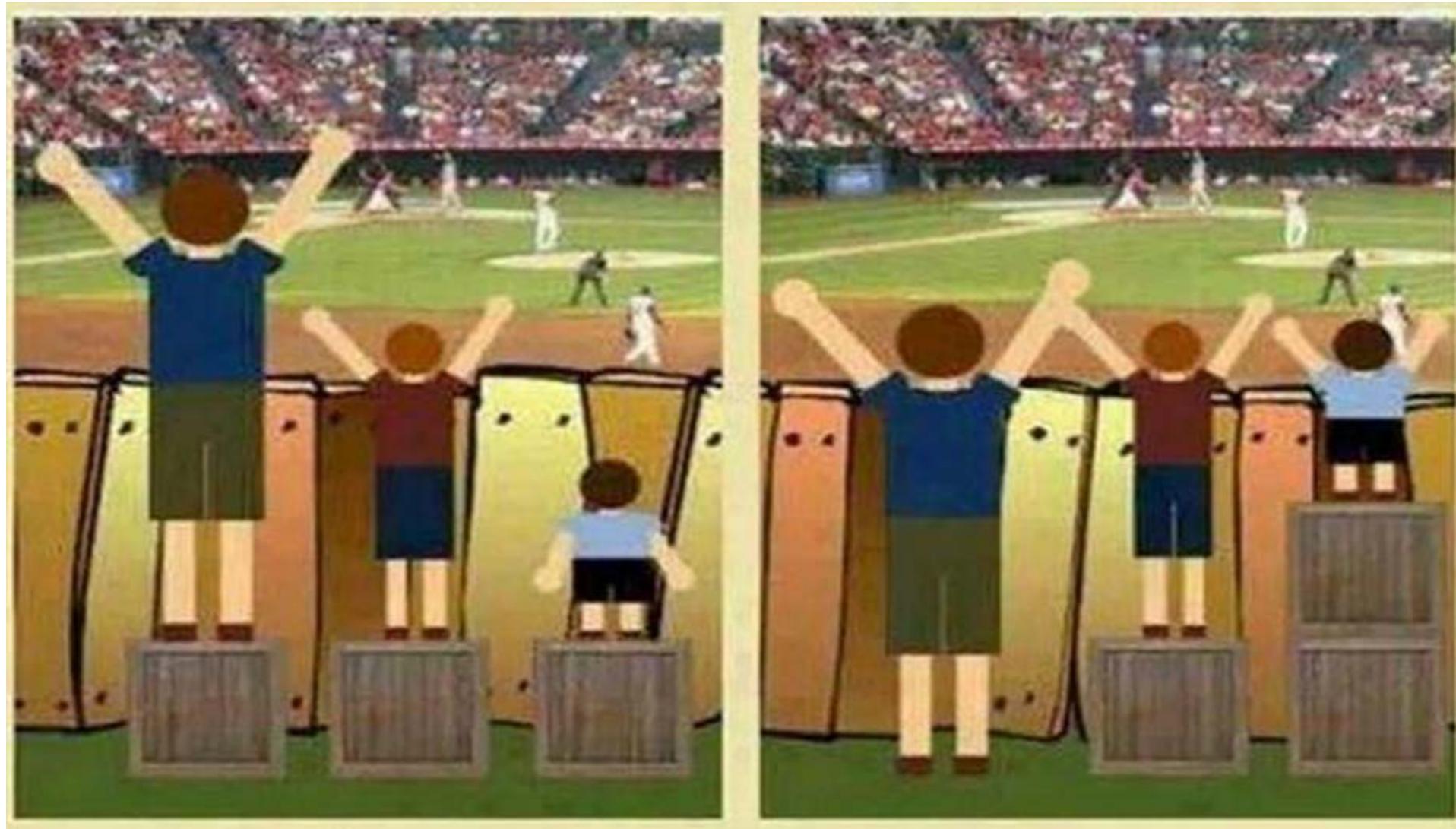
*Culture is often described as the combination of a body of knowledge, a body of belief and a body of behavior. It involves a number of elements, including personal identification, language, thoughts, communications, actions, customs, beliefs, values, and institutions that are often specific to ethnic, racial, religious, geographic, or social groups. For the provider of health information or health care, these elements influence beliefs and belief systems surrounding health, healing, wellness, illness, disease, and delivery of health services. **The concept of cultural competency has a positive effect on patient care delivery by enabling providers to deliver services that are respectful of and responsive to the health beliefs, practices and cultural and linguistic needs of diverse patients.***



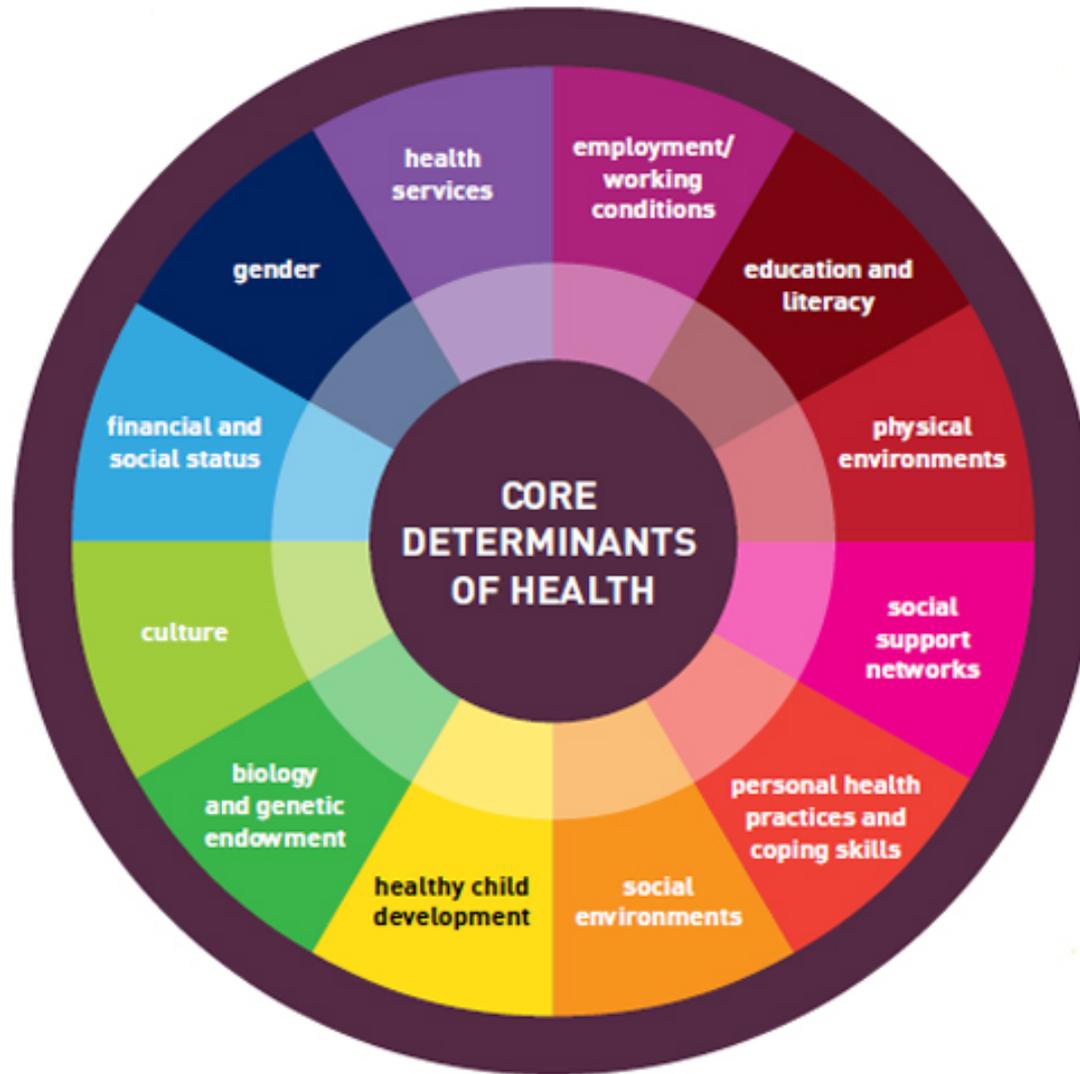
# Health Equity Should Be The Goal

- Racial Justice  $\neq$  Diversity
  - (Diversity = Variety)
- Racial Justice  $\neq$  Equality
  - (Equality = Sameness)
- Racial Justice = Equity
  - (Equity = Fairness, Justice)

# Equality vs. Equity



# Causes of Health Disparity



# Linkage to Care

## No. 1 Rule of Successful LTC



**“You treat a disease,  
you win, you lose.**

**You treat a person,  
I guarantee you,  
you’ll win, no matter  
what the outcome.”**

**- Patch Adams**

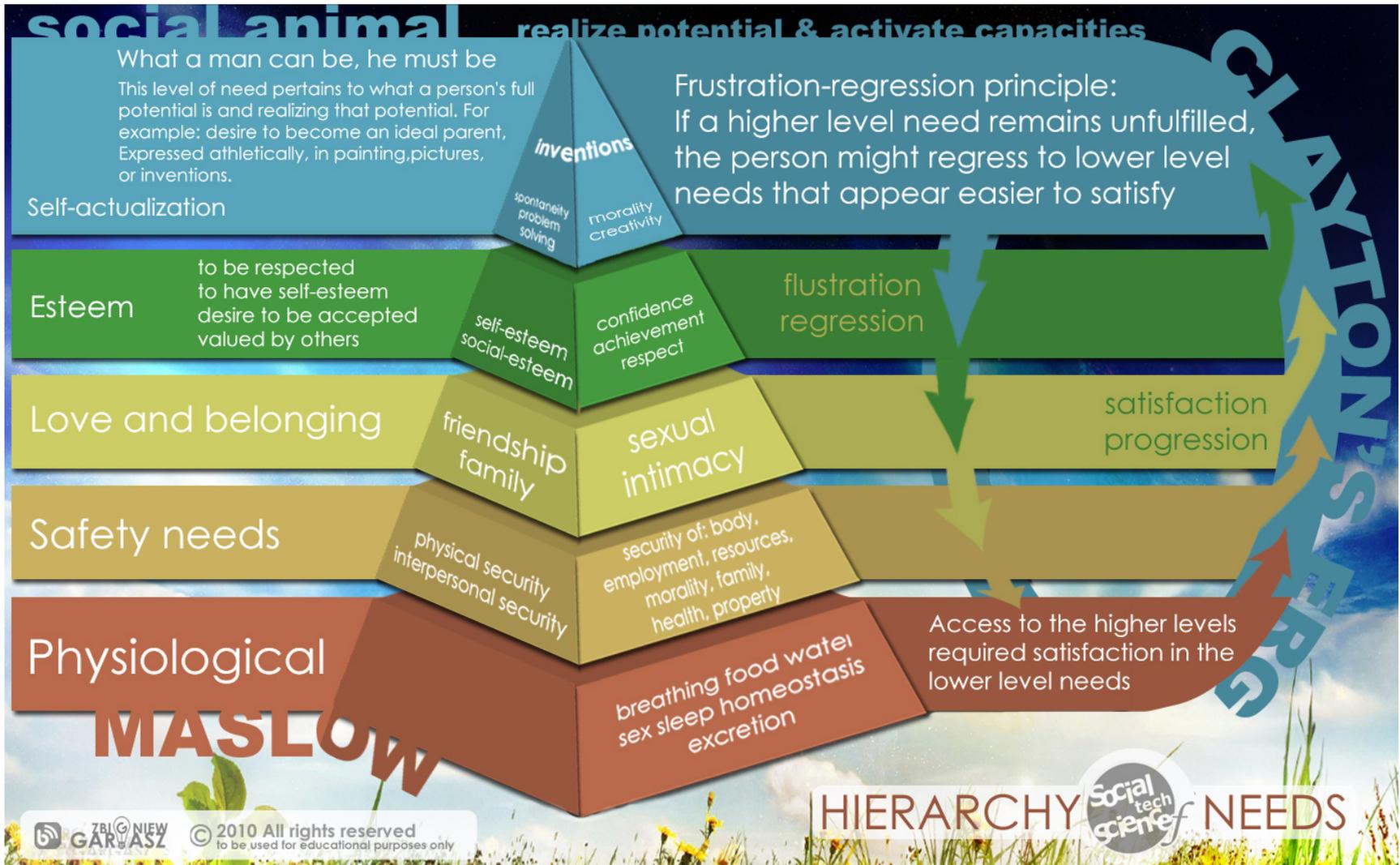
**MEDLINEUNIVERSITY**  
Medical Education to Advance the Future



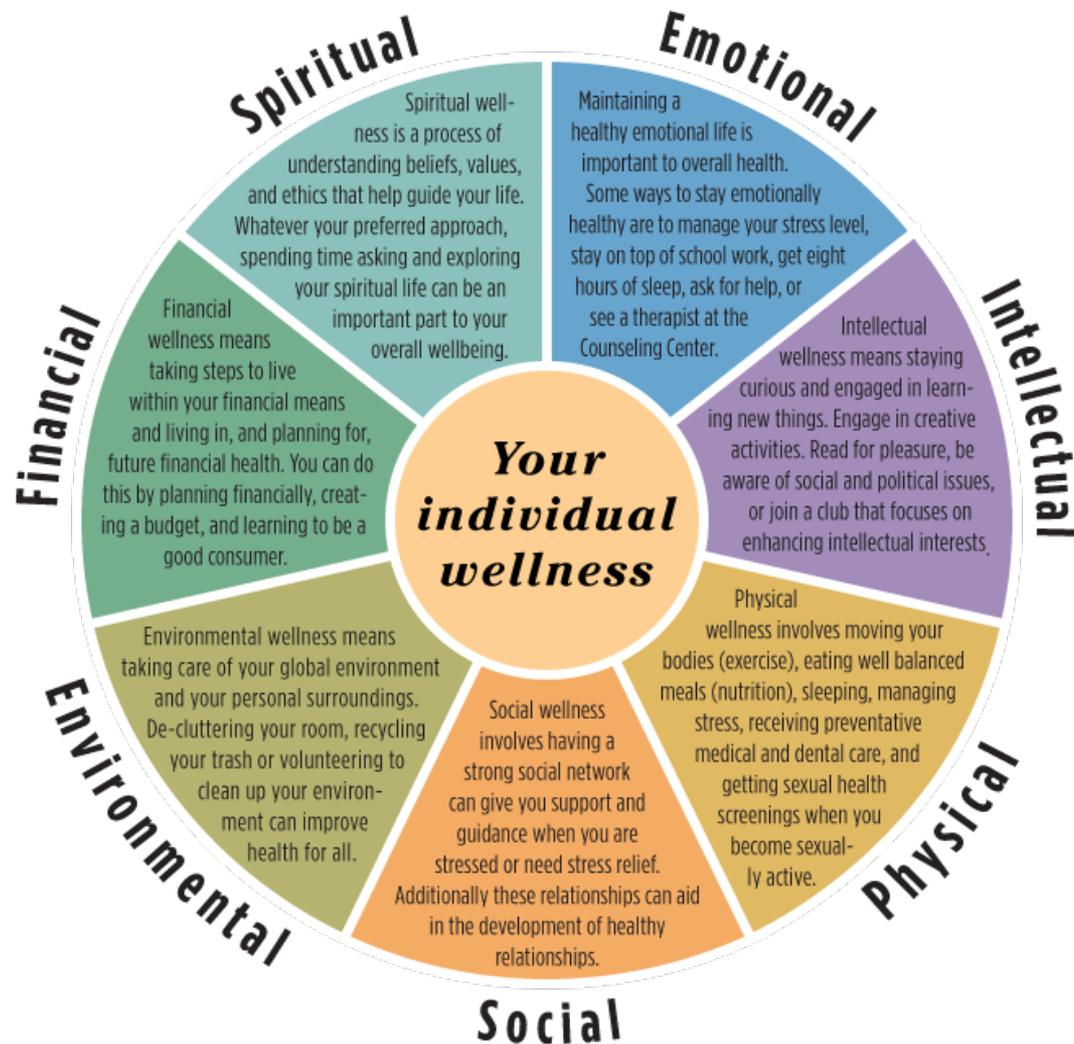
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# Meet Their Needs & They'll Meet Yours!

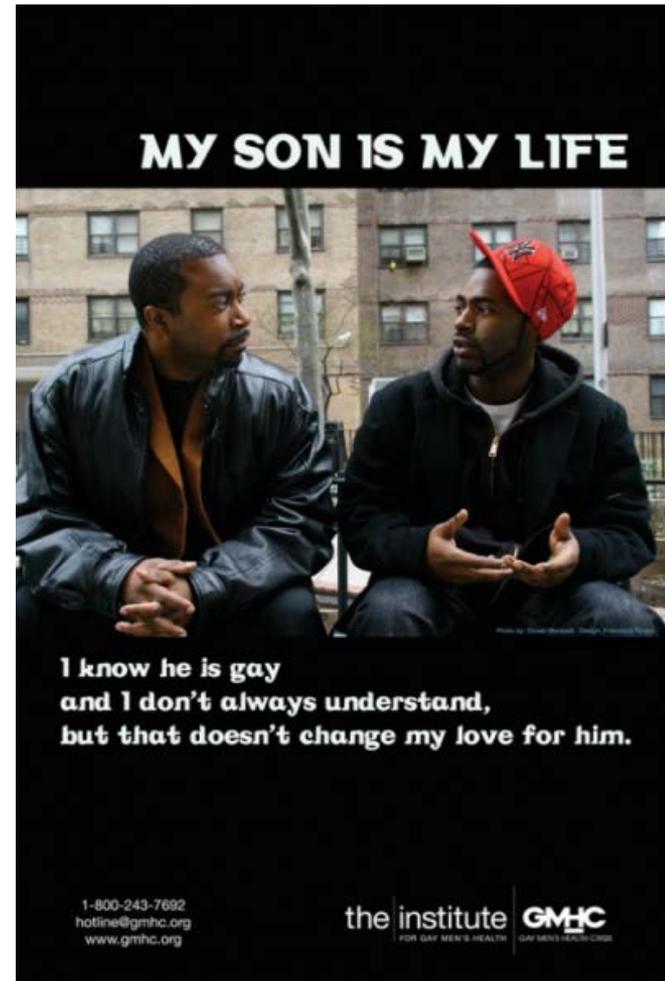


# Holistic Health



# Holistic Engagement

- Treating the “whole” person is crucial
- Sometimes family engagement is necessary
  - Many MSM don't feel safe at home
  - Family rejection increases risk
- Housing is Healthcare



# Intersectionality

- The interconnected nature of social categorizations such as race, class, and gender as they apply to a given individual or group, regarded as creating overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage
  - Oxford English Dictionary

# Strategic Preparation is Key

- Staff training
  - From the front desk to the CEO
- Find out where they are. (Then go there!)
- Youth/MSM friendly spaces
- Community inclusion from planning to implementation

# Questions that youth may **instantly** ask themselves

- *OMG is everyone here positive.*
- *I THINK that's my cousin's baby father's little sister at the front desk.*
- *GOSH why is it taking so long?*
- *Will everyone know?*
- *What will they think of me?*
- *This is WAAAAY too much!*
- *They are going to judge me.*
- *I need to get out of here*

*"In Multicultural society like ours, the issue of belonging is especially important. One of the first issues for an adolescent walking through the door or even thinking about trying a community program is whether he or she can belong to this group of people"*

*-Eccles & Gootman*



# Unprecedented Partnerships

- LGBTQ Youth Groups
- Organizations serving homeless youth
- Sex workers/human trafficking advocacy groups
- LGBT fraternities
- Open and affirming churches
- Ballroom Community



# Community Tailored Marketing Strategies



# What Success Looks Like

**LGBTQ** HEALTH INITIATIVE

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## IMPROVING LGBTQ HEALTHCARE

A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

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*Participate in a community conversation around the healthcare of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning communities, and provide input that will shape Columbus Public Health's new LGBTQ Health Initiative.*

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:**  
Dr. Beth T. Tranen, DO  
Briggs Road Medical Center

**WHEN:**  
Wednesday, March 26, 2014  
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

**WHERE:**  
Columbus Public Health  
Auditorium  
240 Parsons Ave  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

**REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED**

*QUESTIONS? Contact LGBTQ Health Advocate Dwayne Steward at 614-645-1493 or [dasteward@columbus.gov](mailto:dasteward@columbus.gov) for more information*

Photo credit: CC-BY J O'Man from Hover, flickr.com

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240 Parsons Ave, Columbus, OH 43215  
[www.publichealth.columbus.gov](http://www.publichealth.columbus.gov)



# What Success Looks Like

**LGBTQ HEALTH INITIATIVE**

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**LGBTQ HEALTH INITIATIVE**

# ARE YOU COVERED?

## HEALTH INSURANCE ENROLLMENT Assistance for LGBTQ Communities

**Getting insurance through the Health Insurance Marketplace or Medicaid can help protect you from the high cost of healthcare. You can access more preventative care, like screening and well checks, to help identify problems early when they may be easier to treat.**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2015**  
5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

**COLUMBUS PUBLIC HEALTH**  
Auditorium  
240 Parsons Ave  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
Lori Gum,  
Stonewall Columbus

**REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED**

**QUESTIONS?**  
Contact LGBTQ Health Advocate Dwayne Steward at 614-645-1493 or [dasteward@columbus.gov](mailto:dasteward@columbus.gov)

**RSVP:** Pre-register for 1-on-1 time with an enrollment assistant at <http://bit.ly/lgbtqhealthenroll>

COLUMBUS PUBLIC HEALTH  
240 Parsons Ave, Columbus, OH 43215  
[www.publichealth.columbus.gov](http://www.publichealth.columbus.gov)  
1/6/2015

# What Success Looks Like

<p><b>LGBTQ HEALTH INITIATIVE</b></p> <h2>IMPROVING LGBTQ HEALTH</h2> <p>A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION</p> <p><i>Participate in a community conversation about the healthcare of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning community members and provide input that will shape Columbus Public Health's new LGBTQ Health Initiative.</i></p> <p><b>KEYNOTE SPEAKER:</b> Dr. Beth T. Tranen, DO Briggs Road Medical Center</p> <p><b>WHEN:</b> Wednesday, March 26, 2012 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>WHERE:</b> Columbus Public Health Auditorium 240 Parsons Ave Columbus, Ohio 43215</p> <p><b>REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED</b></p> <p><b>QUESTIONS?</b> Contact LGBTQ Health Advisor Dwayne Steward at 614-645-1493 or <a href="mailto:dasteward@columbus.gov">dasteward@columbus.gov</a> for more information.</p> <p><small>Photo credit: CC-BY J O'Man from Hoyer, flickr.com</small></p> <p><small>COLUMBUS PUBLIC HEALTH 240 Parsons Ave, Columbus, OH 43215 <a href="http://www.publichealth.columbus.gov">www.publichealth.columbus.gov</a></small></p>	<p><b>LGBTQ HEALTH INITIATIVE</b></p> <h1>ARE YOU COMING?</h1> <p><b>HEALTH INSURANCE Assistance for...</b></p> <p><b>Getting Insurance through...</b> can help protect you from... preventative care, like screening... early when they may be e...</p> <p><b>THURSDAY, JANUARY...</b> 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>COLUMBUS PUBLIC HEALTH...</b> Auditorium 240 Parsons Ave Columbus, Ohio 43215</p> <p><b>RSVP:</b> Pre-register with an enrollment and <a href="http://bit.ly/lgbtqhe">http://bit.ly/lgbtqhe</a></p> <p><small>COLUMBUS PUBLIC HEALTH 240 Parsons Ave, Columbus, OH 43215 <a href="http://www.publichealth.columbus.gov">www.publichealth.columbus.gov</a> 1/6/2015</small></p>	<h1>COMING OUT &amp; KEEPING THE FAITH</h1> <p>AN EVENT FOR YOUTH &amp; FAITH LEADERS</p>  <p><b>TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14TH 5:30-8P.M. AT THE GREAT HALL</b> 6 NORFOLK STREET CODMAN SQUARE HEALTH CENTER DORCHESTER</p> <p>For more info contact: <a href="mailto:youthcab@fenwayhealth.org">youthcab@fenwayhealth.org</a> Public transit: Buses 22, 23, 26, 45 or Red Line to Shawmut</p>
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# PrEP & Community Engagement

**WHAT IS PrEP? AND IS IT FOR ME?**

**A RECEPTION & COMMUNITY FORUM**

Join us for a community forum about PrEP – a daily HIV prevention medication.

Fenway's Dr. Ken Mayer will provide a "PrEP 101" overview and then we'll hear from a panel of community members about their experiences with PrEP.

Food, fun and a special appearance by the Boston Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence!

**AIDS ACTION COMMITTEE** **MAC**

FENWAY  HEALTH

**WHEN:** January 23, 2014  
 Reception | 6 to 6:45 p.m.  
 Community Forum | 6:45 to 8:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Fenway Health Conference Center  
 1340 Boylston St, 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Floors  
 Boston, MA 02215

**THE FENWAY INSTITUTE**

## PrEP Education Event Series

**Let's Talk About PrEP (Baby!)**  
 September 23 • 5:30–8 p.m.  
 Harriet Tubman House  
 United South End Settlements  
 566 Columbus Ave., Boston

**A New Day. A New Fight. Preventing HIV in LGBTQ Communities of Color**  
 October 15 • 5:30–8 p.m.  
 Whittier Street Health Center  
 Room 202, 1290 Tremont St., Boston

**What's the latest news about PrEP, a daily HIV prevention medication?**

Join us for a community forum about the newly discovered benefits of PrEP, ways to get involved in the Fenway Institute's research efforts, and insight on how can we better engage LGBT communities of color in HIV prevention and research.

Light refreshments will be served.

**Questions?**  
 Contact Dwayne Steward  
 at 857.313.6630 or  
 dsteward@fenwayhealth.org.

**FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**  
 **RSVP PREFERRED:** [fenwayhealth.org/prep-ed](http://fenwayhealth.org/prep-ed)

COM-2078



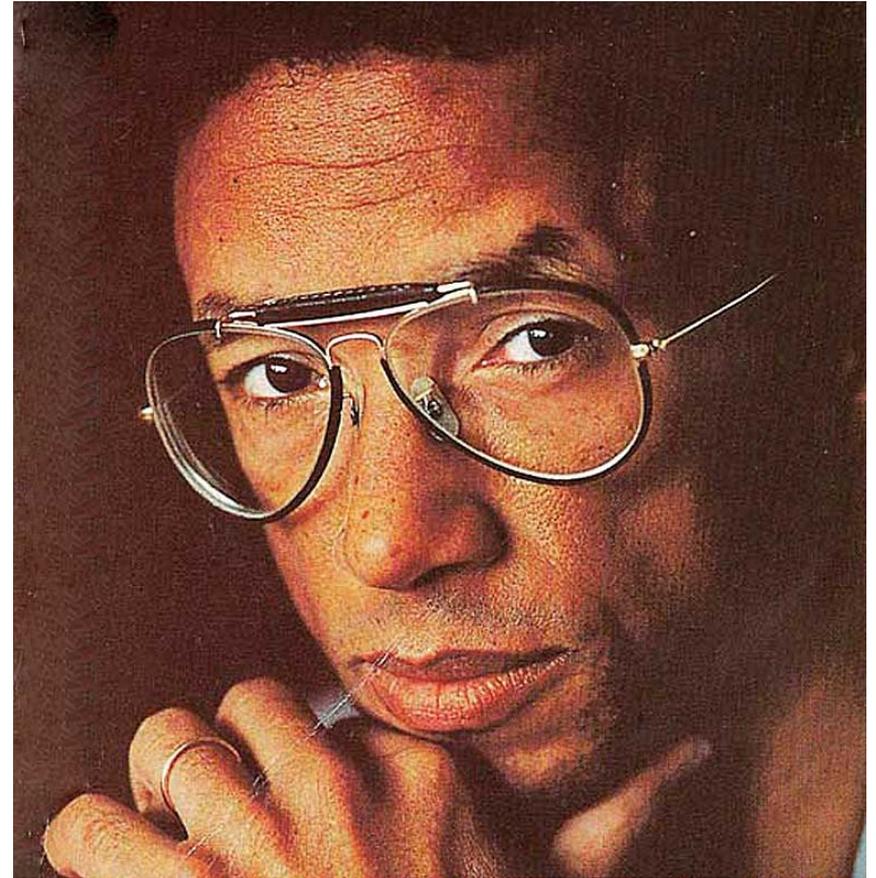
# What You Can Do Today!

- Send staff to conferences
  - Creating Change, Philadelphia Transgender Health Conference, GLMA Annual Conference
- Culturally competent magazines/posters in waiting room
  - The Advocate, OUT Magazine, Swerv Magazine
- Sponsor local LGBT events
- Health care navigators
  - Cut the red tape!



# Conclusion

**“Start where you are.  
Use what you have.  
Do what you can.”  
— Arthur Ashe**



# National LGBT Health Education Center: Youth Resources

- Waiting room posters and brochures for young patients
  - [www.lgbthealtheducation.org/publications](http://www.lgbthealtheducation.org/publications)
- Webinars on LGBTQ youth
  - [www.lgbthealtheducation.org/training/on-demand-webinars](http://www.lgbthealtheducation.org/training/on-demand-webinars)
- Learning Module on LGBTQ youth
  - [www.lgbthealtheducation.org/training/learningmodules](http://www.lgbthealtheducation.org/training/learningmodules)



**Do Ask,  
Do Tell**

Talk to your provider about being LGBTQ.  
Your provider will welcome the conversation.  
**Start today!**

**ELI** NATIONAL LGBT HEALTH  
EDUCATION CENTER  
A PROGRAM OF THE FENWAY INSTITUTE  
TEL 617.927.6334 WEB [lgbthealtheducation.org](http://lgbthealtheducation.org) EMAIL [lgbthealtheducation@fenwayhealth.org](mailto:lgbthealtheducation@fenwayhealth.org)  
THE FENWAY INSTITUTE 1340 Boylston Street, 8th Fl Boston MA 02215

# Resources for Youth

- Peer Listening Line: 617-267-2535 (toll free 800-399-PEER)
- GLBT National Help Center's Youth Talkline: 800-246-PRIDE (7743)
- Safe Homes Project: 800-621-HOPE (4673)
- Llámanos Sexual Assault Hotline: 800-223-5001
- National Runaway Safeline: 800-786-2929, [www.1800runaway.org](http://www.1800runaway.org)
- Trevor Project's Lifeline: 866-488-7386, [www.thetrevorproject.org](http://www.thetrevorproject.org)
- Gay-Straight Alliance: [www.gsanetwork.org](http://www.gsanetwork.org)

# Resources for Families

- TransYouth Family Allies: [www.imatyfa.org](http://www.imatyfa.org)
- Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG): [www.pflag.org](http://www.pflag.org)
- Family Acceptance Project: [familyproject.sfsu.edu](http://familyproject.sfsu.edu)

# Resources on Community Engagement

- NIAID (2009): Recommendations for Community Involvement in NIAID HIV/AIDS Clinical Trials Recruitment
- AVAC: [www.avac.org](http://www.avac.org)
- FHI360 (2012): Stakeholder Engagement Toolkit for HIV Prevention Trials: [www.fhi360.org/resource/stakeholder-engagement-toolkit-hiv-prevention-trials](http://www.fhi360.org/resource/stakeholder-engagement-toolkit-hiv-prevention-trials)
- Child Welfare League of America Recommended Practices: To Promote the Safety and Well-Being of LGBTQ Youth and Youth at Risk of or Living with HIV in Child Welfare Settings  
<https://www.lambdalegal.org/sites/default/files/publications/downloads/recommended-practices-youth.pdf>

# Resources on Disparities

- Back of the Line: The State of AIDS Among Black Gay Men in America, The Black AIDS Institute, 2012
- Serving Our Youth: Findings from a National Survey of Services Providers Working with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Youth Who Are Homeless and at Risk for Becoming Homeless, The Williams Institute, 2012  
<http://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/Durso-Gates-LGBT-Homeless-Youth-Survey-July-2012.pdf>
- Lambda Legal Health Care Report: [www.lambdalegal.org/publications/when-health-care-isnt-caring](http://www.lambdalegal.org/publications/when-health-care-isnt-caring)
- Marshal et al. Sexual orientation and adolescent substance use: a meta-analysis and methodological review. *Addiction*. 2008; 103: 546-556.

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