

The Intersection of Homelessness and LGBTQI+



Training and Resource Opportunities

Why? Years of research and countless studies have repeatedly shown that discrimination threatens not only access to housing but the stability of communities. Members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ) community are more likely to become homeless, and once homeless, more likely to endure discrimination and harassment that extends their homelessness. LGBTQ youth

experiencing homelessness are at particular risk. Between 20 and 40 percent of all homeless youth identify as members of the LGBTQ community, and for them, homelessness or the threat of homelessness frequently forces youth into survival behaviors that jeopardize their wellbeing and safety.

—HUD Exchange LGBTQ Homelessness

HUD EXCHANGE | LGBTQ Homelessness

<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/resources-for-lgbt-homelessness/#resources-for-homeless-lgbtq-individuals-in-crisis>

Final Rule: Equal Access in Accordance with an Individual's Gender Identity in HUD Programs

On September 21, 2016, HUD published a final rule in the Federal Register entitled "Equal Access in Accordance with an Individual's Gender Identity in Community Planning and Development Programs." Through this final rule, HUD ensures equal access to individuals in accordance with their gender identity in programs and shelter funded under programs administered by HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD). This rule builds upon HUD's February 2012 final rule entitled

"Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs Regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity" (2012 Equal Access Rule), which aimed to ensure that HUD's housing programs would be open to all eligible individuals and families regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status. The final rule requires that recipients and subrecipients of CPD funding, as well as owners, operators, and managers of shelters, and other buildings and facilities and providers of services funded in whole or in part by any CPD program to grant equal access to such facilities, and other buildings and facilities, benefits, accommodations and services to individuals in accordance with the individual's gender identity, and in a manner that affords equal access to the individual's family.

Notice on Equal Access Regardless of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, or Marital Status for HUD's CPD Programs

HUD is providing a notice that projects can use to notify clients and residents of the new Equal Access rule requirements. The document helps providers ensure that individuals seeking placement or accommodation in a shelter or other building or facility and housing funded under a program administered by the Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD) are aware of HUD's equal access policy.

Training Scenarios for Use with Project Staff

Individual projects can use these brief scenarios and discussion points as the foundation of staff training sessions to support transgender-inclusive projects. Each of the seven scenarios reviews different kinds of interactions, including those that occur between project residents, between staff members, and between staff members and supervisors. Topics include gender identity and ID document mismatches, harassment inside projects, and privacy concerns, among others.

LOCAL RESOURCE

South Coast LGBTQ+ Network

The South Coast LGBTQ+ Network creates and supports a thriving LGBTQ+ community on Massachusetts' South Coast where members can freely, safely and joyously celebrate their true selves and realize their full potential. P.O Box 8473 NB MA 02740 Tel 774.775.2656.

