Thank You for Joining Us Today

The NANASP Webinar will Begin Shortly
So that knowledge gets better with age.
Providing Quality Services to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Elder Communities

Hilary Meyer, SAGE
NANASP webinar
10-25-12
Agenda

I. Definitions & Scope
II. Unique Needs
III. Resources Available
IV. Q & A
Definitions

LGBT (GLBT) =
Lesbian
Gay
Bisexual
Transgender
Scope

• Raise your (virtual) hand if you currently have contact with an LGBT older adult.
  – Approx. 1.5-3 million LGB older adults in US today
  – By 2030, estimates that will be over 7 million
  – 99% of U.S. counties have same-sex couples
LGBT Elders Face Unique Challenges to Successful Aging

1. Cumulative effects of a lifetime of stigma
2. Need to rely upon “families of choice” for care and support
3. Unequal treatment under laws and programs for older adults
LGBT Elders Face Unique Challenges to Successful Aging

1. Effects of stigma, past and present
   - A 70-year old lesbian has seen her expressions of love labeled:
     - A psychiatric disorder (until 1973)
     - Criminal (until 2003)
     - Anti-family and immoral (still by many religious groups)
     - A threat to security and morale (as recently as last year by the U.S. military)

2. Need to rely upon “families of choice” for care and support

3. Unequal treatment under laws, programs and services for older adults
LGBT Elders Face Unique Challenges to Successful Aging

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- LGBT elders 2X more likely to be single, 4X less likely to have children
- Families and social networks are critical to successful aging
  - In US, family members provide 80% of long-term care
  - Social isolation linked to higher morbidity, infection, depression and cognitive decline
- Hostility (and closet) create distance from parents, siblings, relatives
- Rely on friends and partners
LGBT Elders Face Unique Challenges to Successful Aging

1. Effects of stigma, past and present

2. Need to rely upon “families of choice” for care and support

3. Unequal treatment under laws, programs and services for older adults

- Design federal and state safety nets around marriage, excludes same-sex couples
- Fail to recognize families of choice
- Fail to address stigma and discrimination
Personal Stories

**Vera and Zayda**
- Together 58 years
- Vera moved to assisted living
- Scared to exhibit photos of them
- Pretended they were sisters

**Myron Gold, 70**
- Wheelchair-bound, former designer, lives in NYC
- “home attendants for years wouldn’t wash me because they said they’re not ‘homos’”
- Aides refused park walks for fear of being seen as “gay”
- Home Health agency did not know how to deal with the issue
Ready To Serve Key Findings

• Recent study of AAAs across the country (50% participation)
• Very few agencies were providing LGB- or T-specific services or outreach
• One hundred agencies (31.3%) in the study had received one or more requests to provide assistance to an LGB older adult in the previous year.
• Agencies that had offered or funded training for their staff were more than twice as likely to have received a request to help an LGB older adult in the previous year.
Resources Available

-National Resource Center on LGBT Aging
U.S. AoA-funded; Est. Feb. 2010; (lgbtaggingcenter.org)

-SAGE national (SageUSA.org) in NYC
212-741-2247
NRC Partner Organizations

SAGE  (lead organization)
American Society on Aging
CenterLink
FORGE Transgender Aging Network
GRIOT Circle
Hunter College
The LGBT Aging Project
National Asian Pacific Center on Aging
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
National Caucus & Center on Black Aged, Inc.
National Council on Aging's National Institute of Senior Centers
National Hispanic Council on Aging
Openhouse
PHI

Southeast Asia Resource Action Center
Core Missions

1. Educate mainstream aging services organizations about the existence and special needs of LGBT elders

2. Sensitize LGBT organizations about the existence and special needs of older adults

3. Bring information to LGBT older adults about a variety of topics of importance to healthy aging
Core Delivery Methods

• Resources Clearinghouse (www.lgbtagingcenter.org)

• Training Institute (in person trainings; webinars; conference appearances)

• Technical Assistance Center (via email and phone)
Website Content

• Over 500 resources and growing
  – Pre-existing materials
  – Original content
  – Links to national and community resources
  – TYPES: PDFs, Articles, Webinars, Audio, Movies

• 24 issue areas covered, including in Spanish and specifically about people of color
Featured Resources

Housing

- Is LGBT Housing Right for You?
- Housing & Services: A Critical Combo
- Fair Housing Federal Law: The Facts
- The SAGE Harlem Community

HIV & Aging Resources  Legal Resources  Support for Caregivers

BROWSE RESOURCES

BY SUBJECT
- Aging & Ageism
- Bisexuality
- Caregiving
- Cultural Competence
- Elder Abuse
- Employment / Workforce Issues
- End of Life Decisions
- En Español
- Families
- Financial Security
- Health & Wellness
- Health Care Access
- HIV & Aging
- Homophobia & Transphobia
- Housing & Homelessness
- Legal Support
- Lesbian
- Medicaid & Medicare
- Mental Health
- Racial Equity
- Retirement
- Social Security
- Spirituality
- Transgender

BY TYPE
- Articles
- Publications
- Multimedia
- Videos
- Webinars
- Slideshows
- Audio

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

NEW PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS - FAIR HOUSING
This document serves to inform LGBT people on how to protect themselves against housing discrimination.  MORE >
Go to: Web Site
Read more: Housing & Homelessness, Legal Support, Aging Providers, LGBT Organizations, LGBT Older Adults

TRANSITIONING OUR SHELTERS
Homelessness is a crisis in the United States. With this challenge, it can be hard for shelters to figure out how to make their shelters safe for transgender people. This publication is for...
Featured Resources

Legal Resources

- Use Our U.S. Map to Find Services in Your Area
- The Importance of Wills
- LGBT Long-Term Care Issues

Browse Resources

By Subject
- Aging & Ageism
- Bisexuality
- Caregiving
- Cultural Competence
- Elder Abuse
- Employment / Workforce Issues
- End of Life Decisions
- En Español
- Families
- Financial Security
- Health & Wellness
- Health Care Access
- HIV & Aging
- Homophobia & Transphobia
- Housing & Homelessness
- Legal Support
- Lesbian
- Medicaid & Medicare
- Mental Health
- Racial Equity
- Retirement
- Social Security
- Spirituality
- Transgender

Related Publications

Lifelines: Documents to Protect Your Family
This publication contains information about essential documents that will help you protect yourself and your loved ones in the event of illness, disability, or death. More...
Featured Resources

HIV & Aging Resources

- HIV Fact or Fiction
- Know Your Rights
- HIV Turns 30

Photo courtesy of the Graying of AIDS Project.

Housing Resources  Legal Resources  Support for Caregivers

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

THE GRAYING OF AIDS
A full-color magazine with stories and pictures of those getting older with HIV. MORE >

MULTIMEDIA

NEW GRAYING OF AIDS

BROWSE RESOURCES

- Aging & Ageism
- Bisexuality
- Caregiving
- Cultural Competence
- Elder Abuse
- Employment / Workforce Issues
- End of Life Decisions
- En Español
- Families
- Financial Security
- Health & Wellness
- Health Care Access
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- Housing & Homelessness
- Legal Support
- Lesbian
- Medicaid & Medicare
- Mental Health
- Racial Equity
- Retirement
- Social Security
Find Resources in Your Area

All older adults, and LGBT older adults in particular, need to have certain legal and financial plans and documents in place to ensure that their wishes regarding healthcare, pensions, inheritance and more are respected. Because state laws vary widely, the National Resource Center on LGBT Aging has compiled state-by-state resources so you can find the help you need in your community. Please note: this resource will grow over time to include resources on health, housing, and more. Tell us what you’d like see.
Inclusive Services guide

Inclusive Services for LGBT Older Adults
A Practical Guide To Creating Welcoming Agencies

National Resource Center ON LGBT AGING
Cultural Competence Trainings

Training for service providers on LGBT aging issues now available

National Resource Center on LGBT Aging
Overall Training Objectives

1. Learn the culture, needs and concerns of LGBT older adults
2. Consider why LGBT older adults are less likely to access health, social and LGBT organization services
3. Identify best practices for safety and inclusivity
4 Trainings

(1) Aging Network (LEVEL 1 & 2): Teaching skills and knowledge on LGBT culturally-competent services

(2) LGBT Orgs (LEVEL 1 & 2): Sensitizing groups to the needs of older LGBT people

Each level = 4 hours
Action Steps

• Inform yourself on the issues
• Request/download “Inclusive Services for LGBT Older Adults: A Practical Guide to Creating Welcoming Agencies”
• Start the conversation
• Request a Training (via website)
Q & A
Contact Information

Hilary Meyer
hmeyer@sageusa.org
212-741-2247

WWW.LGBTAGINGCENTER.ORG