



CENTER of EXCELLENCE LGBTQ+ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EQUITY

The Center of Excellence on LGBTQ+ Behavioral Health Equity (CoE LGBTQ+ BHE) seeks to provide behavioral health practitioners with important information on supporting the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and queer (LGBTQ+) community.

Research shows that LGBTQ+ populations of all ages disproportionately experience more instances of mental health and substance use disorders, suicidality, and poorer wellbeing outcomes compared to their heterosexual and cisgender peers. The CoE LGBTQ+ BHE's mission is to bring information and resources to the behavioral health field to enhance culturally responsive care and decrease disparities for this population.

The CoE LGBTQ+ BHE provides training and technical assistance opportunities for behavioral health professionals including:

1. Monthly webinars providing the latest information and best practices for supporting LGBTQ+ children, youth, young adults, adults, and older adults
2. Online, self-paced training modules on providing behavioral health services to LGBTQ+ community
3. Monthly office hours with experts from across the country who will be available to provide technical assistance on a variety of subjects
4. Resources such as tip sheets, briefs, animated shorts, and videos
5. Searchable database with the current and relevant information
6. Tailored technical assistance (Time limited)
7. Rapid responses to requests for resources
8. Opportunities to become an [AFFIRM](#) site where agencies will receive free training and coaching on the AFFIRM intervention from the model developers.

The Center of Excellence on LGBTQ+ Behavioral Health Equity Goals

Goal 1: *Increase awareness & understanding of LGBTQ+ disparities, unmet treatment needs, minority stress, EBPs & best practices, workforce challenges, & opportunities among practitioners, families, youth, states, & communities through regular provision of free, publicly-available, coordinated TTA*

Goal 2: *Increase practitioner knowledge & skills about effective strategies to decrease health disparities and stigma including through evidence informed practices and EBPs*

Goal 3: *Accelerate adoption & implementation of EBPs through the implementation of evidence-based LGBTQ+ group clinical models as well as training and coaching models for the workforce*

For more information on the CoE LGBTQ+ BHE visit www.lgbtquequity.org. You can also contact the center directly by email lgbtquequity@ssw.umaryland.edu.

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