

LGBTQ Quality of Life Advisory Commission

Austin LGBT Chamber of Commerce Conference Room

March 19, 2018

**Stephanie Hayden, LMSW
Interim Director**



**Austin Public Health
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer,
Intersex (LGBTQI) Quality of Life Initiative**

APH Leadership Committee:

Ashley LeMaistre, HHS Program Coordinator Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention

Kristin Quinn, Public Health Program Specialist II, HIV Outreach & Health Equity

Richard Waite, Grants Program Manager, DSRIP/1115 Waiver

Ana Anguiano, Public Health Program Supervisor, HIV Outreach

Chris Crookham, Public Health Program Manager, PHEP

APH Executive Sponsor:

Adrienne Sturup, Acting Assistant Director, Health Equity & Community Engagement

APH LGBTQI Quality of Life Initiative: *Mission & Vision*

- **MISSION:** Austin Public Health provides and supports quality, inclusive services, outreach, and education to improve the health outcomes of diverse LGBTQI communities through the use of best and promising practices.
- **VISION:** Austin will be the healthiest, most welcoming, and most inclusive city in the nation.



APH LGBTQI Quality of Life Initiative: *Accomplishments*

- Growing participation and outreach at annual Austin PRIDE Parade and Festival
- Designated APH's single-user restrooms as all-gender inclusive *before* city discussed ordinance
- RBJ Health Center recognized as the first health department nationally to receive the Healthcare Equality Index status
- A selection of educational flyers and articles
- SharePoint site up and running



Other APH LGBTQ Activities

- The new Electronic Health Records (EHR) system for APH – *EClinicalWorks* – has a check box to signify transgender.
- APH is compiling LGBTQ data from available sources for use in presentations
- APH has conducted three annual surveys of its employees regarding LGBTQI climate/experiences in the workplace.

Note: both straight and LGBTQI employees answered the survey.

Other APH LGBTQ Activities

○ HIV/AIDS

- The mission of the Austin Public Health Ryan White Program is to provide leadership and resources to assure access to and retention of high quality integrated care and treatment services for vulnerable people living with HIV/AIDS and their families. The goals of the program include: Reducing new HIV infections; increasing access to care and improving health outcomes for People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWH); and Reducing HIV-related health disparities.

○ Communicable Diseases

- Our mission is to prevent, control, and manage Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) as well as the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in our community. The overall goal is to reduce the incidence rates of HIV and STIs. The Austin Public Health Communicable Diseases Unit has worked with partners and consistently provided low/no cost clinical services at the RBJ STD Clinic to individuals exposed to or seeking screening services for HIV/STIs.

○ Getting to Zero

- Austin Public Health (APH) staff conducted significant research on best practice program models to address the AIDS epidemic. The research included site visits to San Francisco, Houston and other jurisdictions; attendance at the U.S. Conference on AIDS; as well as discussions with capacity-building assistance providers and technical assistance providers. These efforts identified the Getting to Zero initiative as a model program. APH is currently meeting with key stakeholders to design Austin's initiative.

APH LGBTQ Tobacco Cessation Campaign

- Smoking prevalence in the LGBTQI community is higher than the population as a whole
- APH conducted research to develop an LGBTQ Tobacco Cessation social and digital media campaign using key informant interviews
- Ads feature Cynthia Lee Fontaine, a local celebrity, promoting smoking cessation



What's Next?

- Training:
 - By September 2019, APH will develop a staff training curriculum, which will provide and support education to increase staff knowledge to better serve the diverse LGBTQI Communities.
- Healthcare Equality Index:
 - By December 31, 2019, the Austin Public Health Department will become a leader in LGBTQ Healthcare Equality through the successful enrollment and scoring of the Healthcare Equality Index (HEI); expanding beyond the current recognition bestowed upon the RBJ clinic.
- Partnership:
 - Working in partnership with the LGBTQ Commission on public health initiatives.

Questions

For follow up:

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