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NEW FEMINIST SOLUTIONS



IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES ARE WELCOME HERE:

**A Resource Guide with Best Practices
for Legal, Health, and Social Service Providers
working with Immigrants who are LGBTQ,
Sex Workers, and/or HIV-Positive**

A Project of Queer Survival Economies directed by
Amber Hollibaugh

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CREDITS

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Queer Survival Economies was established in 2014 by Amber Hollibaugh to work at the intersections of sexuality, poverty, homelessness, labor, and the criminalization of survival.

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ABOUT

NEW FEMINIST SOLUTIONS SERIES

The New Feminist Solutions (NFS) is a publication of the Barnard Center for Research on Women at Barnard College. Each report emerges from conferences, projects, and other collaborations sponsored by BCRW, geared toward informing and inspiring policy-makers, activists, and philanthropic partners. Reports are collaboratively researched and written with organizations and individuals working to link feminist struggles to those of racial, economic, social, and global justice.

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INTRODUCTION

UNDERSTANDING THE LANDSCAPE FOR IMMIGRANTS WHO ARE LGBTQ, SEX WORKERS, AND/OR HIV-POSITIVE

Since the Trump administration took office in January 2017, violence against undocumented and documented immigrants, trans and gender nonconforming people, sex workers, Muslims, Black people and people of color, and other vulnerable groups has increased and taken many forms: economic, political, bodily, sexual, and social.¹⁷ People who occupy multiple marginalized social and structural positions experience these forms of oppression and violence with a sharper edge and more routinely in their everyday encounters. Though communities organize to resist this violence and build networks and systems for sanctuary and self-defense,¹⁸ people who are targeted by vigilante violence, racist policing, laws criminalizing poverty and survival-based economies, and the ramping up of local law enforcement and border enforcement have minimal access to legal recourse, systemic accountability, or reliable safety, reinforcing what are already precarious positions.¹⁹ Because of these conditions, immigrants who are documented and undocumented, LGBTQ, sex workers, and/or HIV-positive face particularly heightened vulnerabilities to violence, detention, family separation, deportation, and premature death.

While the threats are currently heightened, many activists and researchers underscore the much longer history of the US immigration and criminal legal systems policing, detaining, and deporting immigrants, people of color, and poor people at record numbers before Trump took office.²⁰ Foundational whites-only naturalization laws, anti-Chinese immigration quotas, immigration raids targeting workplaces dominated by immigrants, the current escalation of family separation and deportation, and the Muslim ban piece together to show a fraction of a much larger story of a U.S. that has always had a deeply hostile and violently exclusive stance toward immigrants of color.²¹ Most recently under the Obama administration the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) deported more people than any other administration, including 530,250 detentions and 344,354 deportations in 2016.²²

The Obama administration's reforms and policies strengthened an existing, dangerous, and mythical binary of "good" law-abiding immigrants who deserved protections and "bad" criminal immigrants who deserved heightened punishments, while bolstering

17 Mark Potok, "The Trump Effect," *Southern Poverty Law Center*. February 15, 2017. Accessed 4/30/18.

18 "#Survived and Punished: Survivor Defense as Abolitionist Praxis," *Survived and Punished and Love and Protect*. Accessed 4/30/18. <http://www.survivedandpunished.org/uploads/2/4/9/8/24987034/survived-and-punished-toolkit.pdf>

19 Jaime M. Grant, Lisa A. Mottet, Justin Tanis, with Jack Harrison, Jody L. Herman, and Mara Keisling, "Injustice at Every Turn: A Report on the National Transgender Discrimination Survey," National Center for Transgender Equality and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. http://www.thetaskforce.org/static_html/downloads/reports/reports/ntds_full.pdf

20 Ana Gonzalez-Barrera and Jens Manuel Krogstad, "U.S. immigrant deportations declined in 2014, but remain near record high," *Pew Research Center*. August 31, 2016. Accessed 4/30/18. <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2016/08/31/u-s-immigrant-deportations-declined-in-2014-but-remain-near-record-high/>; Daniel Denvir, "Obama created a deportation machine. Soon it will be Trump's," *The Guardian*. November 21, 2016. Accessed 4/30/18.

21 Aviva Chomsky, "America Wanted to Keep Immigrants Out Long Before Donald Trump was Born," *The Nation*. September 13, 2016. Accessed 4/30/18. <https://www.thenation.com/article/america-wanted-to-keep-immigrants-out-long-before-donald-trump-was-even-born/>

22 "Defend Against ICE Raids and Community Arrests: A Toolkit to Prepare and Protect Our Communities," Immigrant Defense Project and Center for Constitutional Rights. Accessed 5/30/17. <https://www.immigrantdefenseproject.org/raids-toolkit/>

the deportation machinery. Though this narrative supported certain vitally important campaigns like the DREAM Act, which offered a path to legal status for young people who came to the U.S. as children, it also reinforced surveillance and policing targeting the most vulnerable immigrants, including sex workers and others engaged in criminalized economies for survival and those presumed to be criminal because of non-normative identities and practices: trans and gender-nonconforming people, people with HIV, and people with physical and psychiatric disabilities. With the current administration's efforts to criminalize immigrants in general, the "bad immigrant" narrative, now stronger in the public imagination, is more easily wielded against all.

"Defend Against ICE Raids and Community Arrests," a toolkit published by the Immigrant Defense Project and Center for Constitutional Rights, explains that under the Trump Administration immigrants and advocates are finding a return to many of the tactics used by the G.W. Bush administration, including DHS's expansion of the category "criminal alien" to include those with pending cases, people who have not yet been convicted, and people stopped for traffic violations; criminalization of employment-related offenses including felony identity theft, which poses specific threats for trans immigrants; and raids of workplaces with high numbers of immigrant employees. Advocates are also finding an increase in aggressive home raids and collateral arrests, expanded criminalization of immigration-related conduct, expanded use of fast-track deportation, an increase of local law enforcement cooperation with ICE, an increase of funding for ICE agents leading to more raids, and an expanded use of databases including gang databases. Advocates have also warned that any protections established during the Obama administration will continue to be swiftly dismantled.²³

Over the last year and counting, from the Muslim and refugee ban prohibiting travel from specific Muslim-majority countries, to the demand to build a wall on the Mexican border, to the increased funding for ICE agents and police departments, to the ongoing attacks on sanctuary cities by the federal government, to the escalation of ICE raids, family separation, immigrant detention, and deportation, these warnings have proven dangerously accurate.²⁴

This resource is intended as a living document to be used and adapted based on feedback from service providers, clients, activists, and community members, as well as changes to our political landscape.

SPECIFIC VULNERABILITIES

Below is an overview intended to assist service providers in doing organizational evaluations, including assessing their resources and practices for improved competency with their clients. This is not an exhaustive list.

- Without access to gender-affirming and/or other legal identity documents, undocumented immigrants and trans immigrants face particular barriers to employment, healthcare, and

23 "Defend Against ICE Raids and Community Arrests: A Toolkit to Prepare and Protect Our Communities," Immigrant Defense Project and Center for Constitutional Rights. Accessed 5/30/17. <https://www.immigrantdefenseproject.org/raids-toolkit/>

24 Sam Levin, "Tears, despair and shattered hopes: The families torn apart by Trump's travel ban," *The Guardian*. January 8, 2018. Accessed 4/30/18. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2018/jan/08/trump-travel-ban-families-affected-first-month>; "Trump's Progress Report: His impact so far and what to watch for in 2018," *The Guardian*. December 29, 2017. Accessed 4/30/18. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2017/dec/29/trumps-america-his-impact-so-far-and-what-to-watch-for-in-2018>; "The First 100 Days of Trump," *The Guardian*. April 30, 2017. Accessed 4/30/18. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/ng-interactive/2017/jan/20/donald-trump-first-100-days-president-daily-updates>

housing, as well as heightened risks of surveillance, arrest, detention, and deportation.

- Immigrants working in informal survival economies, like the sex and drug trades, are exposed to increased policing and criminalization, putting them at greater risk of detention and deportation.
- Increased exposure to policing leads to increased arrests, which often makes immigrants deportable whether or not they have legal status in the United States.
- Immigrants who are LGBTQ, sex workers, and/or HIV-positive face daily and routine harassment and violence marked by racism, sexism, and transphobia. They also endure physical and sexual violence at the hands of employers, coworkers, clients, healthcare providers, benefits administrators, social service agencies, and others.
- Undocumented immigrants lack legal protections, and immigrants in general face barriers to legal services that could protect them from abuse and violence in employment, healthcare, housing, and the criminal punishment system.
- LGBTQ immigrants face additional barriers because of a lack of trans- and queer-friendly or knowledgeable legal services, and an inability to access family-based immigration because of family rejection and/or because their chosen and/or extended family is not recognized by the legal system.
- Because of transphobia and the stigmas attached to sex work and HIV status, LGBTQ people, sex workers, and people with HIV routinely face harassment and physical and sexual violence from ICE agents, police officers, lawyers, and service providers.

- Because of criminalization, exposure to violence, and lack of access to healthcare, immigrants who are trans, queer, and/or sex workers face higher risk of exposure to HIV and higher rates of HIV infection, which in turn heightens their exposure to criminalization and barriers to safety.
- For immigrants in general and particularly immigrants who are LGBTQ, sex workers, and HIV-positive, the combination of vulnerability, social stigma, and routine violence (including the daily threat of arrest and deportation) leads to high rates of stress, depression, low self-esteem, and other mental health challenges.
- Many people do not know their rights when stopped by the police as immigrants, LGBTQ-identified people, sex workers, and/or people who are HIV-positive. For example, many sex workers consider violence “normal” or “part of the job,” and many do not know their rights when stopped by the police or ICE.

- Service providers and the criminal legal system routinely dismiss survivors’ reports of physical and/or sexual violence, particularly when those survivors are immigrants who are LGBTQ, sex workers, and/or HIV-Positive. Instead, the authorities are more likely to punish survivors of violence, denying resources including legal defense, social services, healthcare, and housing. Few alternative systems exist. Therefore, it is dangerous to report sexual assault and physical violence to the authorities, and few resources exist for survivors seeking safety and healing.
- Trans immigrants who do not have access to healthcare (because of lack of gender-affirming and/or other legal identity documents, economic marginalization, and/or social stigma) and turn to underground and/or unregulated sources can be exposed to health risks including HIV exposure, in order to access trans-affirming care.
- The criminalization of sex work and the stigma attached to it makes it difficult for sex workers to access healthcare, social services, stable housing, and other basic needs.

“The U.S. has always had a deeply hostile and violently exclusive stance toward immigrants of color.”

- The criminalization of sex work and the stigma attached to it also contribute to the routine harassment, hostility, and violence sex workers experience from clients, law enforcement, benefits administrators, social service providers, landlords, and others.
- For immigrants who are HIV-positive, the criminalization and stigmatization of HIV often results in barriers to healthcare, mandatory HIV testing, unwanted disclosure of HIV status, and threats of disclosure to various authorities. This hostility and abuse leads many immigrants who are HIV-positive to avoid seeking health services.
- If arrested, trans immigrants are rarely placed in facilities that align with their gender identity, exposing them to even more harassment and violence while in detention. The most common “protection” offered to trans people in detention is to be placed in “protective custody,” otherwise known as solitary confinement, exposing them to heightened psychological and physical danger.

LAWS AND PROCEDURES

Below is a list of some of the legal and procedural risks that immigrants who are LGBTQ, sex workers, and/or HIV-positive face. This is not an exhaustive list.

- The criminalization of sex work targets sex workers as well as others profiled as sex workers, particularly trans women, for surveillance and arrest. In many jurisdictions, the legal definition of sex work is so broad that many people can be arrested whether or not they are engaging in sex work, including people having public sex.
- In many jurisdictions, police have been authorized to do routine sweeps and use condoms as evidence of intent to engage in sex work, which gives the police wide latitude in arresting people and makes immigrants vulnerable to deportation. Many jurisdictions have fought to end the use of condoms as evidence, including in NYC.
- As of 2011, 36 states and two territories have specific laws that criminalize HIV exposure and transmission through consensual sex, needle sharing, or through spitting and biting, despite the fact that spitting and biting have not been shown to pose a significant risk of transmitting HIV. As with condoms as evidence, these laws provide another avenue for police to arrest and eventually deport immigrants with HIV.
- From 1993 until 2010, federal immigration law prohibited people with HIV from entering the country for visitation or immigration purposes and banned people with HIV from gaining lawful immigrant status. Though the HIV ban was lifted on January 4, 2010, people living with HIV still face discrimination. For immigrants applying for lawful permanent residence, being HIV-positive can affect United States Citizen and Immigration Services’ (USCIS) decision about whether they are “likely to become a public charge,” which can provide grounds to deny the application. Additionally, HIV-positive immigrants who are detained in immigration detention facilities often face difficulty obtaining necessary health care.
- Since DHS initiated Secure Communities (S-Comm) in 2008, all fingerprints taken by the police are sent via the FBI to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to determine whether the person in police custody is a target for deportation. Though President Obama repealed S-Comm and replaced it with the Priority Enforcement Program (PEP) in 2014, to focus on deporting “real criminal aliens,” the impact on vulnerable immigrant populations remains the same. Furthermore, the Trump administration signed an Executive Order reinstating S-Comm in January 2017.

DOs & DON'Ts FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS

Please note: These are not hard and fast rules. In some situations, your client's status as a trans person, or someone who is HIV-Positive, or someone who engages in sex work will be relevant to the services they are seeking, and your ability to provide those services competently and effectively. In other situations, this information will be unnecessary. Consider the situation before you ask.

Do...

- Ask client's preferred name and gender pronouns and make note for future reference.
- If you use the wrong pronouns, apologize and correct the mistake.
- Respect individual's preferences when it comes to identity labels, particularly contentious ones (or ones with troubled histories).
- If a person shares their gender identity and/or sexual orientation, do check in about complaints regarding abuses related to gender and sexuality. If necessary, help transgender immigrants in detention find immigration attorneys, advocate for obtaining appropriate medical care, and obtain documentation that matches their gender identity.
- Ask about family members, including partners, children, and other family members who may be impacted by the issues bringing the client to your office. Provide resources and/or referrals to support affected family members.
- Develop and distribute "Know Your Rights" information pamphlets.
- Respect people's work choices regardless of your personal feelings and beliefs.
- Understand the complex combination of options and choices both available and unavailable to your client.
- Keep personal and confidential client files locked.
- Provide information pamphlets and resources, such as free condoms, safe sex information, and resources on accessing safe syringes.
- Prior to asking questions, let clients know about any limitations to confidentiality and what you are legally obligated to report.
- Provide the service the client has come for.
- Respect people's autonomy, intelligence, and experience regardless of language, accent, education, job, housing status, and/or employment status.
- Respect personal space.

Don't...

- Don't assume pronouns. It is best to ask each person what gender pronoun(s) they use.
- Don't disclose someone's gender identity or sexual orientation without consent.
- If a person shares their gender identity and/or sexual orientation, don't assume reasons for why they told you. Always ask questions.
- Don't assume a client does not have family, including partners, children, and other family members, who also risk detention, separation, and/or deportation.
- Don't disclose a person's HIV status.
- Don't use harmful and offensive language when discussing transgender and gender nonconforming people (e.g. "biologically male," "biologically female," "genetically male," "genetically female," "born a man," "born a woman," "had the surgery"). If a person tells you they are not comfortable with you referring to them in a certain way or with a certain word, don't.
- Don't use harmful and offensive language when discussing immigration status (e.g. "illegal immigration").
- Don't criticize sex workers for their employment.
- Don't provide services on a conditional basis (e.g. "If you stop doing sex work, we'll help you with...").
- Don't provide unsolicited advice beyond what the client is seeking.
- Don't threaten clients with reporting to authorities under any circumstances. Before a client discloses anything, be clear and upfront about whether reporting is required, when and where, and who your client should expect to engage with.
- Don't assume that people are comfortable being touched or hugged, no matter your intentions.

NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

Below are sample survey questions to provide for clients and staff as part of an assessment and organizational change process. There are many groups that provide training and support for organizational change, including Vision Change Win Consulting (based in NYC).

Questions for Clients to Assess the Services Provided by Your Organization

1. How can immigration advocacy organizations and social service organizations be more welcoming and inclusive to the LGBTQI community?
2. How can immigration advocacy organizations and social service agencies better serve HIV+ immigrants?
3. How can immigration advocacy and social service agencies better serve clients in the sex work industry?
4. What are some negative experiences you have had with immigration advocacy and/or social service organizations?
5. What are some positive experiences you have had with immigration advocacy and/or social service organizations?
6. What have been the most significant obstacles you have faced as an immigrant? Do you feel that there are organizations and/or resources available to address those obstacles? What organizations or resources do you think are lacking or needed?
7. What has been your experience seeking healthcare in the US? What obstacles have you encountered related to being LGBTQ, HIV+, and/or a sex worker? What resources have you found that have been useful?
8. Have you had any interactions with ICE or law enforcement? If you are willing to disclose, please describe these encounters. Were you able to access legal and/or community or organizational support?
9. What resources/support do you need access to as an immigrant that have not been provided to you?
10. Have you ever been refused medical care based on your gender identity, sexual orientation, employment (in the sex work industry or any other), and/or immigration status?
11. Have you ever felt afraid to obtain medical care because of your sexual orientation, gender identity, or immigration status? Please describe the situation if you are comfortable.
12. Describe your access to psychological services? Are these services competent? In what ways is it lacking or in need of improvement?
13. Do you feel comfortable disclosing your gender identity and/or sexual orientation to social service providers and/or advocacy workers?
14. Have you been in a situation where being unable to disclose your gender identity, sexual orientation, employment, and/or immigration status has prevented you from gaining access to the services you needed? Please describe the situation if you are comfortable.
15. What was your experience before coming to the United States as someone who is LGBTQI, HIV+, and/or a sex worker? Please share as much as you are comfortable.
16. Please share anything else you think may be useful for our organizational self-assessment.

Suggested Questions for Service Providers to Assess Organizational and Staff Competency

1. Do you currently have or have you had clients or potential clients seeking services who are LGBTQ, sex workers, and/or HIV+? If not, do you have the resources to meet these clients' needs?
2. How does your organization respond to sex workers? Please answer this question on an organizational and staff/intern level.
3. How does your organization respond to LGBTQI people? Please answer this question on an organizational and staff/intern level.
4. How does your organization respond to people who are HIV+? Please answer this question on an organizational and staff/intern level.
5. Are there unique services that your organization offers to immigrants who are LGBTQI, HIV+, and/or sex workers?
6. What practices and procedures does your organization have in place to be welcoming, inclusive, and accessible to immigrants who are LGBTQI, HIV+, and/or sex workers?
7. What practices and procedures do you think need modification, and are there new practices and procedures you would recommend introducing?
8. How does your organization ask people to identify their gender, sexual orientation, immigration status, HIV status, and/or employment in criminalized economies on written applications, forms, during intake, and in other in-person meetings?
9. Does your organization provide information about refugee and asylum applications for LGBTQI and HIV+ individuals?
10. Does your organization offer ongoing, regular trainings for staff, interns, and volunteers to increase their competency and remain up to date on relevant policy changes related to their work with immigrant clients who are LGBTQI people, people who are HIV+, and sex workers?
11. What languages do clients speak? Do you have translators and/or multilingual staff? What languages do staff speak? Do you prioritize multilingual staff in your hiring process?
12. Do you have an advisory board made up of members of your client constituency?
13. Do you have evaluations for clients to provide feedback on the quality and competency of the services received on an informal and regular basis?

GLOSSARY

The following glossary is intended to assist health, legal, and social service providers in increasing their competency working with clients. In general, always respect an individual's preferences when it comes to identity labels. Always ask before assuming. This is not an exhaustive list.

TERMS RELATED TO GENDER AND SEXUALITY¹⁷

Sex

The biological classification of a person as male or female. Infants are assigned a sex at birth, usually based on the appearance of their external anatomy. A person's sex classification (male or female) appears on their birth certificate. A person's sex, however, is actually a combination of bodily characteristics, including chromosomes, hormones, internal and external reproductive organs, and secondary sex characteristics.

Gender Identity

A person's internal, deeply-held sense of their gender. For transgender people, their internal gender identity does not match the sex they were assigned at birth. Most people have a gender identity of man or woman, or boy or girl. However, some people's gender identity does not fit neatly into one of those two choices (see non-binary and/or genderqueer below). Gender identities can be described as existing along a gender spectrum. The notion of a gender spectrum implies there are gender identities besides man or woman that people can and do inhabit, and that gender identity does not necessarily remain fixed throughout a person's life. Unlike gender expression, gender identity is not necessarily apparent to others. Every person has a gender identity. Gender identity is distinct from sexual orientation.

Gender Expression

External manifestations of gender, expressed via a person's name, pronouns, clothing, haircut, behavior, voice, and/or body characteristics. Society identifies these cues as masculine and feminine, although what is considered masculine and feminine changes over time and varies by culture. Some transgender people seek to align their gender expression with their gender identity, rather than aligning it with the sex they were assigned at birth.

Sexual Orientation

Describes a person's physical, romantic, and/or emotional attraction to another person. Gender identity and sexual orientation are not the same and it is important to understand the difference between the two, especially when working with transgender people. Transgender people may be straight, lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual, queer, or any number of other options.

Transgender (adj.)

An umbrella term for people whose gender identity and/or gender expression differs from what is typically associated with the sex they were assigned at birth. People under the transgender umbrella may describe themselves using one or more of a wide variety of terms - including transgender, transgender woman, or transgender

¹⁷ Unless otherwise specified, all terms in this section are modified from "GLAAD Media Reference Guide - 10th Edition," GLAAD, October 2016. Accessed 5/30/18. <https://www.glaad.org/reference>

man, among others. Some of these terms are defined below. Some transgender people are prescribed hormones by their doctors so that their physical appearance better aligns with their gender identity. Some undergo surgery as well. However, not all transgender people can or want to take these steps, and a transgender identity is not dependent upon physical appearance or medical procedures.

Transsexual (adj.)

An older term that originated in the medical and psychological communities. Still used by some people, often those who have accessed or seek medical interventions, including but not limited to hormones and/or surgeries. Unlike transgender, transsexual is not an umbrella term. Many transgender people do not identify as transsexual. It is best to ask which term a person uses when identifying themselves (i.e. transgender, transsexual, genderqueer, etc.). If a person uses the term transsexual, use it as an adjective: transsexual woman or transsexual man.

Trans or Trans*

Often used as shorthand to mean transgender or transsexual (trans). It is sometimes used as an inclusive term indicating the wide variety of identities under the transgender umbrella (e.g. trans* community).

Transman

An identity label sometimes adopted by female-to-male transgender people or transsexuals. It signifies that they are men, while still affirming their history as assigned female at birth (AFAB). Sometimes colloquially referred to as a transguy.

Transwoman

An identity label sometimes adopted by male-to-female transgender people or transsexuals. It signifies that they are women, while still affirming their history as assigned male at birth (AMAB). Sometimes colloquially referred to as a transgirl.

Cross-dresser

While anyone may wear clothes culturally associated with a different gender, the term cross-dresser is typically used to refer to people who habitually wear clothes, makeup, and/or accessories culturally associated with a gender other than their own. Cross-dressing is a form of gender-nonconforming gender expression. People engage in cross-dressing for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to, pleasure, sexual activity, stress relief, and a desire to inhabit different gender expressions. Some cross-dressers conduct their cross-dressing on a part-time or temporary basis; some do not wish to permanently change their sex or live full-time as another gender; and some may identify as transgender. Cross-dressers are commonly, but certainly not exclusively, cisgendered straight men who wear clothes, makeup, and/or accessories culturally associated with cisgendered straight women. However, cross-dressers can exist anywhere on the gender spectrum. Like being transgender, engaging in cross-dressing does not indicate a person's sexual orientation. People who cross-dress may identify as heterosexual, gay, queer, or another sexual identity. Cross-dresser replaces the term "transvestite," a term that is now outdated and derogatory.

Transition

Altering one's birth-assigned sex is not a one-step procedure; it is a complex process that occurs over a long period of time. This process is referred to as a person's transition, and can include some or all of the following social, medical, and legal steps: telling one's family, friends, and co-workers; using a different name and new pronouns; dressing differently; changing one's name and/or sex on legal documents; hormone therapy; and/or one or more types of surgery. The exact

steps involved in transition vary from person to person. Avoid using the phrase “sex change” when referring to a person’s transition.¹⁸

Sex Reassignment Surgery (SRS)

Also called gender confirmation surgery (GCS) or gender-affirming surgery. Refers to doctor-supervised surgical interventions that modify a person’s body to better reflect their gender. When a person undergoes Sex Reassignment/Gender Reassignment Surgery, it is only one part of their transition (see “Transition” above). Avoid the phrase “sex change operation.” Do not refer to someone as being “pre-op” (pre-operation) or “post-op” (post-operation). Not all transgender people choose, or can afford, to undergo medical surgeries.

Cisgender (adj.)

A person whose gender identity aligns with the biological sex they were assigned at birth. For example, a cisgender woman is a woman who was assigned female at birth (AFAB); a cisgender man is a man who was assigned male at birth (AMAB). The word cisgender can also be shortened to “cis,” just as transgender can be shortened to “trans.”

Gender Nonconforming

A gender identity label indicating that a person’s gender identity falls outside the gender binary (male/female or man/woman). Often abbreviated as GNC.

Intersex

A general term used for a variety of conditions in which a person is born with a reproductive or sexual anatomy (a combination of chromosomes, gonads, hormones, internal sex organs, and/or genitals) that doesn’t align with the normative definitions of female or male. Intersex is a socially constructed category that reflects real biological variation.¹⁹ Intersex replaces the now outdated and derogatory term hermaphrodite (or hermaphroditic). Avoid using hermaphrodite or hermaphroditic.

Lesbian

Women who have the capacity to be sexually, romantically, emotionally and/or spiritually attracted to other women.

Pansexual

A person who experiences sexual, romantic, emotional, and/or spiritual attraction to members of multiple gender identities/expressions. Often shortened to “pan.”

Queer

Used as an umbrella term to describe individuals who don’t identify as straight. Also used to describe people who have a non-normative gender identity, or as a political affiliation. Historically, queer was a derogatory term. Although its use was reclaimed by some activist movements in the 1990s, it is not embraced or used by all members of the LGBTQ community. If a person tells you they are not comfortable with you referring to them as queer, don’t. The term “queer” is sometimes used interchangeably with LGBTQ (e.g., “queer folks” instead of “LGBTQ folks”).

Preferred Gender Pronouns (PGPs)

¹⁸ Definition adapted from “Queer Glossary,” Office of Multicultural Affairs, Bowling Green State University. Accessed 5/30/17. <https://www.bgsu.edu/content/dam/BGSU/multicultural-affairs/documents/queer-glossary.pdf>

¹⁹ Definition adapted from “What is Intersex,” Intersex Society of North America. Accessed 5/30/17. http://www.isna.org/faq/what_is_intersex

It is becoming more common, particularly within progressive organizations and educational institutions, to ask people to include their preferred gender pronouns (PGPs) along with their name during introductions (e.g., “My name is Alex and I use she/her pronouns”). Many suggest removing the adjective “preferred,” because it indicates flexibility and/or the power for the speaker to decide which pronouns to use for someone else.

TERMS RELATED TO GENDER & SEXUALITY OPPRESSION²⁰

Cissexism

Behavior that grants preferential treatment to cisgender people, reinforces the idea that being cisgender is somehow better than being transgender, and/or makes other genders invisible.

Cisnormativity

The assumption, by individuals and/or institutions, that everyone is/should be cisgender, and that cisgender identities are superior to trans* identities or people. Leads to invisibility of non-cisgender identities.

Heteronormativity

The assumption, by individuals and/or institutions, that everyone is/should be heterosexual and that heterosexuality is superior to all other sexualities. Leads to invisibility of and stigmatizing other sexualities (e.g. when learning that a woman is married, asking her what her husband’s name is). Heteronormativity also leads us to assume that only masculine men and feminine women are straight.

Heterosexism

Behavior that grants preferential treatment to heterosexual people, reinforces the idea that heterosexuality is somehow better or more “right” than queerness, and/or makes other sexualities invisible.

Homophobia

An umbrella term for a range of negative attitudes (e.g., prejudice, discrimination, abuse, fear, anger, hatred, intolerance, resentment, erasure, or discomfort) that one may have towards members of LGBTQ communities. The term can also connote a fear, disgust, or dislike of being perceived as LGBTQ. As an adjective, “homophobic” is used to describe an individual who harbors some elements of this range of negative attitudes, thoughts, and/or intents towards LGBTQ people. Homophobia may also be inwardly experienced by someone who identifies as queer (internalized homophobia).

Transphobia

An umbrella term for a range of negative attitudes (e.g., prejudice, discrimination, abuse, fear, anger, hatred, intolerance, resentment, erasure, or discomfort) that one may have towards trans* people, members of the trans* community, or gender ambiguity. Transphobia can be seen within the queer community, as well as within society at large. Transphobia is often manifested in violent and/or deadly means. While the exact numbers and percentages are difficult to calculate, it’s safe to say that trans* people are far more likely than their cisgender peers (including LGB

²⁰ Unless otherwise specified, all terms in this section are modified from “GLAAD Media Reference Guide – 10th Edition,” GLAAD, October 2016. Accessed 5/30/18. <https://www.glaad.org/reference>

people) to be victims of violent crimes and murder. As an adjective, “transphobic” is used to describe an individual who harbors some elements of this range of negative attitudes, thoughts, and/or intents towards trans* people.

Biphobia

Describes a range of negative attitudes (e.g., prejudice, discrimination, abuse, fear, anger, hatred, intolerance, resentment, erasure, or discomfort) that one may have towards bisexual individuals. Biphobia can come from, and be seen within, the LGBTQ community, as well as society at large. As an adjective, “biphobic” is used to describe an individual who harbors some elements of this range of negative attitudes, thoughts, and/or intents towards bisexual people.

Anti-Lesbian Stigma/Lesbian Phobia

Anti-lesbian stigma or lesbian phobia describes a range of negative attitudes (e.g., prejudice, discrimination, abuse, fear, anger, hatred, intolerance, resentment, erasure, or discomfort) that a person may have toward lesbians. This phobia describes a combination of sexism against women and homophobia. As an adjective, “lesbian-phobic” is used to describe an individual who harbors some elements of this range of negative attitudes, thoughts, and/or intents towards lesbians.

TERMS RELATED TO IMMIGRATION²¹

Immigrant

This is a technical legal term which means a foreign national who has been granted permission to remain in the United States permanently, that is a “legal permanent resident” or “green card holder” and as such is distinguished from a “non-immigrant” who comes to the United States on a temporary visa. The term “immigrant” is often used more broadly to mean any person who is not a U.S. citizen.

Undocumented

The term used to describe foreign nationals who are present in the U.S. without lawful status. The term can refer to those who entered the U.S. without inspection (by crossing the border), those who overstayed their allotted time in the U.S., or those who violated the terms of their legal status. With very limited exceptions (notably asylum and immediate relatives of U.S. citizen petitions) a person who does not possess lawful status in the U.S. cannot change from being in the U.S. unlawfully to being here lawfully.

Asylum

An immigration benefit for which nationals of other countries can apply if they have a well-founded fear of future persecution on account of certain protected characteristics. Persecution on account of sexual orientation, transgender identity, and HIV-positive status have been found to be grounds for asylum.

Visa

A visa is a legal document that permits its holder to seek entry into the United States on either a temporary or a permanent basis. Legally, a visa merely permits the foreign national to board transportation to the U.S. Permission to enter the country may be granted or denied by immigration officials at the port of entry.

²¹ All terms in this section are borrowed directly from “Immigration 101: Glossary of Terms,” Immigration Equality. Accessed 5/30/18.

Non-immigrant visa

A temporary visa, such as a tourist, student, or skilled worker visa. Its purpose is to allow a foreign national to come to the United States for a limited period of time and for a specific purpose, not to remain in the United States permanently. Many non-immigrant visas require applicants to prove that they do not intend to remain in the U.S. permanently by demonstrating strong economic and family ties to their home country.

Green Card

This is the informal term for “an alien registration card” or Form I-551. It is proof that its holder has legal permanent resident status.

DACA

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals is a program created by President Obama to offer deferred action to certain foreign national youths who were brought to the U.S. before they turned 16 years old.

TERMS RELATED TO SEX WORK

Sex Work

Sex work is any type of labor where the explicit goal is to produce a sexual or erotic response in the client. Sex work includes prostitution, but it also includes a wide array of other things like erotic dancing, pro-dom/pro-sub work, webcam work, sensual massage, adult film, phone sex, being a sugar baby, etc.²²

Sex Worker

A sex worker is someone who trades sex or sexual services for money, shelter, or anything else of value. This can include escorting or full-service sex work; stripping, erotic dancing, or go-go dancing; porn star or camera work; massage; fetish work; dom/domme work; and other forms of work related to sex.

Sex Industry

All encompassing forms of sex work such as web cams, cyber sex, dancing, massage, S&M, pornography etc.

Sex Trafficking

Trafficking is an egregious human rights violation involving the threat or use of force, abduction, deception, or other forms of coercion for the purpose of exploitation. This may include forced labor, sexual exploitation, captivity, and more. Some sex workers enter the industry willingly but may eventually become victims of trafficking. Sex trafficking is distinct from sex work. Conflating sex trafficking and sex work reinforces the criminalization of sex work, and does not decrease the incidence of sex trafficking. Instead, such efforts limit or eliminate sex workers’ income, autonomy, and safety, and increase their exposure to vulnerability and violence from clients and/or law enforcement.²³

SESTA/FOSTA

SESTA (Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act) and FOSTA (Allow States and Victims to Fight

22 Definition from “Learn About Sex Work,” Sex Worker Organizing Project (SWOP)-USA. Accessed 5/3/18. <http://www.new.swopusa.org/learn-about-sex-work/>

23 Definition adapted from “Sex Work and Sex Trafficking,” SWOP Behind Bars. Accessed 5/3/18. <http://swopbehindbars.org/amnesty-international-policy-to-decriminalize-sex-work/the-difference-between-sex-work-and-sex-trafficking/>

Online Sex Trafficking Act) are the U.S. Senate and House bills that as the FOSTA-SESTA package became law on April 11, 2018. These bills conflate sex work and human trafficking, further criminalize sex workers, and put both sex workers and sex trafficking victims at even greater risk.

Sex Worker Rights

Sex workers' rights include a range of human, health, civil, and labor rights. The movement goals are diverse and vary depending on the country and/or jurisdiction, but generally aim to decriminalize and destigmatize sex work and ensure that sex workers are treated fairly by government, private, and broader society.²⁴

TERMS RELATED TO HIV²⁵

AIDS

AIDS stands for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome and is a set of symptoms and illnesses that occur at the very final stage of HIV infection. It is diagnosed when a person's immune system is almost entirely destroyed, and too weak to fight off infections.

HIV

HIV stands for Human Immunodeficiency Virus. It attacks a person's immune system cells, and without treatment will completely destroy their immune system and their ability to fight off infections.

PEP

PEP is short-term treatment that must be taken within 72 hours of possible exposure to HIV, for example after unprotected sex. It stops HIV from spreading throughout the body and causing an infection.

PrEP

PrEP is a daily course of antiretroviral drugs that can prevent HIV infection. It is aimed at HIV-negative people who may have an HIV-positive partner, are unable to negotiate condom use, and/or have repeated sex without a condom. When PrEP is adhered to exactly as prescribed, it reduces the chances of HIV infection to near-zero. But if pills are missed then the risk of infection will increase substantially.

Undetectable/Virally suppressed

A person living with HIV is considered to have an 'undetectable' viral load – or to be virally suppressed – when antiretroviral treatment has brought the level of virus in their body to such low levels that blood tests cannot detect it. As long as treatment is adhered to and viral load remains undetectable (as monitored by a health professional), they cannot transmit HIV to others and their health is not affected by HIV.

24 "Explaining Sex Worker Rights and Regulations," Sex Worker Outreach Project (SWOP)-USA. Accessed 5/2/17. https://www.dropbox.com/sh/56zuyowgg9ockmp/AADVkdsKnnKF4skHJ6ZCs7a_a/Public%20Education?dl=0&preview=Explaining+Sex+Worker+Rights+and+Regulations.pdf

25 Definitions for all terms in this section from "HIV and AIDS Glossary," Avert. Accessed 5/2/18. <https://www.avert.org/about-hiv-aids/glossary>

GENERAL TERMS²⁶

Abolition

A political project that seeks to create the conditions for dismantling prisons, police, and surveillance. It seeks to build new institutions that ensure actual safety. An important abolitionist insight is that most prison reforms tend to actually entrench the prison system and expand its reach. 19th-century reformers, for instance, created women's prisons to ameliorate the brutal conditions faced by women who had to share quarters with men in prison. But the result was that exponentially more women were incarcerated. Consequently, it is important to develop strategies that actually reduce the number of people being incarcerated.²⁷

Criminalization

The structures and procedures that construct certain actions and identities as criminal actions and identities, sometimes through creating policies that make something "against the law," and sometimes by unevenly distributing blame or unjustly using legal structures to enforce social expectations. Examples: racial profiling, laws that criminalize sex work, the arrest of sex workers far more often than clients of sex workers, etc.²⁸

Intimate Partner Violence/Domestic Violence

Acts of abuse, harm, or pattern of power and control exercised by one person over another within an intimate relationship (such as people who are dating, living together, married, formerly in a relationship, etc.). These acts can take place between anyone, including people who are heterosexual or queer, friends, lovers, family, etc. Intimate partner violence can include: physical abuse including threats and threats to harm others, pets or self; verbal abuse; emotional abuse; isolation; sexual abuse/assault; economic/financial abuse; threats or use of other systems of oppression to gain power and/or control such as ICE, queer outing, etc.²⁹

Prison-Industrial Complex (PIC)

A massive multi-billion dollar industry that promotes the exponential expansion of prisons, jails, immigrant detention centers, juvenile detention centers, and policing. The PIC is represented by corporations that profit from incarceration, politicians who target people of color so that they appear to be "tough on crime," and the media that represents a racist view of how crime looks in our communities. In order to survive, the PIC uses panic propaganda to convince the public how much we need prisons; uses public support to strengthen harmful law-and-order agendas such as the "War on Drugs" and the "War on Terrorism"; uses these agendas to justify imprisoning disenfranchised people of color, poor people, and people with disabilities; leverages the resulting increasing rate of incarceration for prison-related corporate investments (construction, maintenance, goods and services);

26 All definitions in this section from "#Survived and Punished: Survivor Defense as Abolitionist Praxis," Survived and Punished and Love and Protect. Accessed 4/30/18. <http://www.survivedandpunished.org/uploads/2/4/9/8/24987034/survived-and-punished-toolkit.pdf>

27 Definition adapted from Free Us All by Mariame Kaba, cited in "#Survived and Punished: Survivor Defense as Abolitionist Praxis," Survived and Punished and Love and Protect. Accessed 4/30/18. <http://www.survivedandpunished.org/uploads/2/4/9/8/24987034/survived-and-punished-toolkit.pdf>

28 Definition adapted from Something is Wrong curriculum, Project NIA, cited in "#Survived and Punished: Survivor Defense as Abolitionist Praxis," Survived and Punished and Love and Protect. Accessed 4/30/18. <http://www.survivedandpunished.org/uploads/2/4/9/8/24987034/survived-and-punished-toolkit.pdf>

29 Definition from Something is Wrong curriculum, Project NIA, referencing INCITE! Women of Color Against Violence, cited in "#Survived and Punished: Survivor Defense as Abolitionist Praxis," Survived and Punished and Love and Protect. Accessed 4/30/18. <http://www.survivedandpunished.org/uploads/2/4/9/8/24987034/survived-and-punished-toolkit.pdf>

pockets the profit; and uses the profit to create more propaganda.³⁰

Sexual Assault

Any unwanted physical, emotional, mental, or spiritual violation of sexual boundaries. A sexual interaction in which consent is absent or lacking.³¹

Transformative Justice

An approach to violence which seeks safety and accountability without relying on alienation, punishment, or state/systemic violence, including incarceration or policing. The goals of transformative justice include: 1) Safety, healing, and agency for survivors; 2) Accountability and transformation for people who harm; 3) Community action, healing, and accountability; 4) Transformation of the social conditions that perpetuate violence.³²

Obstruction of a safe work environment

Specifically regarding sex work, this refers to perpetual raids on or closures of stroll, red light districts, massage parlors, or online adult work spaces that disrupt and exposes individuals and communities to heightened risk of violence, arrest, detention, and/or deportation. Sex workers' work environments, spaces, and networks allow them to remain safe and economically independent.³³

Condom Seizure

The seizure of condoms as evidence during a police stop or arrest.³⁴

30 Definition adapted from CARA: Communities Against Rape and Abuse, cited in "#Survived and Punished: Survivor Defense as Abolitionist Praxis," Survived and Punished and Love and Protect. Accessed 4/30/18. <http://www.survivedandpunished.org/uploads/2/4/9/8/24987034/survived-and-punished-toolkit.pdf>

31 Definition from Philly Stands Up, cited in "#Survived and Punished: Survivor Defense as Abolitionist Praxis," Survived and Punished and Love and Protect. Accessed 4/30/18. <http://www.survivedandpunished.org/uploads/2/4/9/8/24987034/survived-and-punished-toolkit.pdf>

32 Definition adapted from GenerationFIVE, cited in "#Survived and Punished: Survivor Defense as Abolitionist Praxis," Survived and Punished and Love and Protect. Accessed 4/30/18. <http://www.survivedandpunished.org/uploads/2/4/9/8/24987034/survived-and-punished-toolkit.pdf>

33 "Explaining Sex Worker Rights and Regulations," Sex Worker Outreach Project (SWOP)-USA. Accessed 5/2/17. https://www.dropbox.com/sh/56zuyowgg9ockmp/AADVkdsKnnKF4skHJ6ZCs7a_a/Public%20Education?dl=0&preview=Explaining+Sex+Worker+Rights+and+Regulations.pdf

34 "Explaining Sex Worker Rights and Regulations," Sex Worker Outreach Project (SWOP)-USA. Accessed 5/2/17. https://www.dropbox.com/sh/56zuyowgg9ockmp/AADVkdsKnnKF4skHJ6ZCs7a_a/Public%20Education?dl=0&preview=Explaining+Sex+Worker+Rights+and+Regulations.pdf

RESOURCE LIST

ORGANIZATIONS*

African Services Committee

Web: africanservices.org

Phone: (212) 222-3882

Address: 429 West 127th Street, New York, NY 10027

Founded in 1981 by Ethiopian refugees to give a helping hand to other newcomers, today African Services is a multiservice human rights agency based in Harlem and dedicated to assisting immigrants, refugees and asylees from across the African Diaspora.

Our programs address the needs of newcomers affected by war, persecution, poverty, and global health inequalities. We provide health, housing, legal, educational, and social services to 12,500 people each year. Staff representing more than 20 countries and speaking over 25 languages provide culturally and linguistically relevant support to this diverse and growing community.

Expanding HIV prevention and access to AIDS treatment and care is central to our mission. African Services has taken this work from Harlem to the frontlines of the global pandemic and now operates five HIV clinics in Ethiopia. We are committed to challenging stigma and discrimination at all levels and supporting individuals, families and communities most impacted by AIDS. Combined with life-saving treatment, this care and support has transformed thousands of lives.

APICHA Community Health Center

Web: apicha.org

Email: vlee@apicha.org

Phone: Toll free number - (866) 274-2429

Address: 400 Broadway, New York, NY 10013

Community health care services include: Primary Medical Care, HIV Primary Care, Transgender Primary Care, Sexual Health Services, including PrEP and PEP, Behavioral Health Services, Nutrition Services, Case Management Services, and Language Assistance.

The Transgender Health Clinic provides individualized primary medical care to Asian & Pacific Islanders and other communities of color in an affirming environment. Transgender Health services include: Personalized Primary Care, Routine Check-Up and Immunizations, Initiation and Maintenance of Hormone Therapy, Short-Term Mental Health Services, Care Management, and Transgender Groups.

Break OUT Youth

Web: youthbreakout.org

Email: info@youthbreakout.org

Phone: 504.252.9025

Address: 4327 Canal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70119

BreakOUT! seeks to end the criminalization of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth to build a safer and more just New Orleans.

** To visit a website in this section, click on the address.*

We build on the rich cultural tradition of resistance in the South to build the power of LGBTQ youth ages 13-25 and directly impacted by the criminal punishment system through youth organizing, healing justice, and leadership development programs.

Bridging Access to Care

Web: bac-ny.org

Email: Can email via website

Phone: Main office - (347) 505-5100

Address: Four locations in Brooklyn—Williamsburg, Crown Heights, and Flatbush (two locations). See website for details.

Bridging Access to Care, Inc. (BAC) is a nonprofit, multi-service community-based organization dedicated to providing comprehensive clinical treatment, evidence-based prevention education and harm reduction, care coordination, and mental health services in a trauma informed/sensitive environment for individuals within at-risk communities in New York City.

BAC offers HIV treatment and is a registered Expanded Syringe Access Program (ESAP) provider. Through this program, BAC delivers services to communities in high-risk locations for intravenous drug use (IDU) and to community pharmacies servicing the IDU population.

Callen-Lorde Community Health Center

Web: callen-lorde.org

Email: *For inquiries about scheduling a training for your institution or organization - trainings@callen-lorde.org

Phone: Manhattan – (212) 271-7200; The Bronx – (718) 215-1800

Address: Manhattan – 356 W. 18th Street New York, NY 1001;
The Bronx – 3144 3rd Ave. Bronx, NY 10451

Callen-Lorde Community Health Center provides sensitive, quality health care and related services targeted to New York's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities.

Programs and Services include: Primary Care, Transgender Health, Adolescent Health, Women's Health, and Dental Health. HIV Services include: HIV Testing, PEP and PrEP, Health Insurance outreach/enrollment and more.

Casa Ruby

Web: casaruby.org

Email: Email via website

Phone: (202) 355-5155

Address: 2822 Georgia Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20001

Casa Ruby is a bilingual, multicultural LGBT organization providing life saving services and programs to the most vulnerable in the LGBT community. Services include a Drop In - Safe Center, which provides meals, houses a clothing exchange, a cyber center, and support groups, and helps with case management, emergency housing referrals, and legal services counseling. Casa Ruby also offers Career and Employment Services, including education and training, job placement services, job seeker service, career development services, and risk remediation services.

**Center for HIV Law
& Policy**

Web: hivlawandpolicy.org
Email: N/A
Phone: (212) 430-6733
Address: 65 Broadway, Suite 832 New York, NY 10006

The Center for HIV Law and Policy (CHLP) is a national legal and policy resource and strategy center working to reduce the impact of HIV on vulnerable and marginalized communities and to secure the human rights of people affected by HIV.

Isolation and lack of health care available to immigrant populations impedes HIV testing, treatment, and prevention efforts. HIV-related restrictions for those visiting or immigrating to a country exacerbate these problems by breaking families apart, dividing spouses, separating parents from their children, limiting employment and educational opportunities for people with HIV, and discouraging individuals from seeking testing or treatment for fear of being denied entry or placed on deportation proceedings.

**The Center: The Lesbian,
Gay, Bisexual, Transgender
Community Center**

Web: gaycenter.org
Email: Can email via website
Phone: (212) 620-7310
Address: 208 W. 13 St New York, NY 10011

The Center offers LGBT communities of NYC health and wellness programs; arts, entertainment and cultural events; and recovery, wellness, parenthood and family support services.

The Center offers a wide range of services to LGBT immigrants, taking into consideration the unique challenges this community faces. Their free, drop-in support group provides a safe, non-judgmental environment where LGBT immigrants can connect and discuss issues related to living in a new country. They also offer a Social Action Group, through which LGBT immigrants collectively organize events and advocate for the community's needs and rights. Regardless of immigration status, their groups are a supportive place to discuss feelings and experiences.

In addition, they offer: Monthly Legal Clinics, Information and Referrals for Legal Assistance, Housing, Education and Job Training, Individual Career Coaching Sessions, Letters of Support in Asylum Cases, Support and Referrals for Immigrants Living with HIV and AIDS, Support Groups for LGBT Immigrants (English speaking groups), Mental Health Assessments and Short-Term Counseling, and an Annual LGBT Immigration Fair and Cultural Event.

**Chinese-American
Planning Council**

Web: cpc-nyc.org
Email: info@cpc-nyc.org
Phone: (212) 941-0920
Address: 150 Elizabeth Street New York, NY 10012

The Chinese-American Planning Council, Inc. (CPC) serves Chinese-American, immigrant and low-income populations. It provides culturally sensitive programs for all ages. CPC currently serves over 8,000 people daily through 50+ contracted programs in 30+ locations in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens. Services include childcare and youth services, workforce development, senior services, HIV/AIDS services, and a community center in Queens.

Community-Kinship Life

Web: cklife.org
Email: Lifecoach@cklife.org
Phone: (347) 881-7005 or (347) 866-9002
Address: 1276 Fulton Ave, 3rd Floor Bronx, NY 10456

CK Life works to provide the transgender community with the tools needed to achieve their personal goals by providing useful information for transgender people during and after transition with regards to health, employment, and day to day social interactions.

CK Life provides Primary Care, HIV and STD/STI Screening and Testing, Support Groups, and Hormone Replacement Therapy. CK Life offers monthly, yearly, or lifetime membership.

Communities United Against Violence (CUAV)

Web: cuav.org
Email: info@cuav.org
Phone: (415) 777-5500
Fax: (415) 777-5565
Address: 427 South Van Ness Ave San Francisco, CA 94103

Founded in 1979, CUAV works to build the power of LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer) communities to transform violence and oppression. We support the healing and leadership of those impacted by abuse and mobilize our broader communities to replace cycles of trauma with cycles of safety and liberation. As part of the larger social justice movement, CUAV works to create truly safe communities where everyone can thrive.

Diaspora Community Services

Web: diasporacs.org
Email: info@diasporacs.org
Phone: (718) 399-0200
Address: 921 East New York Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11203

Founded in 1981, Diaspora Community Services (DCS) is a Brooklyn-based multi-service and multi-cultural 501 (c) 3 nonprofit providing comprehensive supports to low income residents, immigrants, and the chronically ill. DCS serves some 10,000 annually through three sites in New York City and a community health center in Haiti. Staffed by seasoned professionals in the health and social service sectors and supported by a dedicated Board of Directors as diverse as the vibrant communities we serve, DCS provides robust programming that targets the most vulnerable of our communities.

Program services include access to quality health services (including HIV and Substance Abuse services), supportive housing, youth education, and the social support services critical to meeting basic needs while focusing on impacting poverty. DCS meets each client where they are in terms of individual skills, finances, health and needs and provides one-on-one transformative support to help them succeed.

The Door

Web: door.org
Email: info@door.org
Phone: (212) 941-9090 – see website for list of extensions
Address: 555 Broome Street New York, NY 10013

Each year, The Door serves 10,000 young people, aged 12-24, from all over New York City, with a wide range of services including reproductive health care and education,

mental health counseling and crisis assistance, legal assistance, GED and ESOL classes, tutoring and homework help, college preparation services, career development, job training and placement, supportive housing, sports and recreational activities, arts, and nutritious meals - all for free, completely confidentially, and under one roof.

Health Services: The Adolescent Health Center (AHC) offers comprehensive health services, including primary care, sexual health and reproductive care, eye care, dental services, dermatology, and nutrition counseling to all Door members, regardless of ability to pay.

Legal & Immigration Services: The Legal Services Center provides different kinds of legal counsel, including support for immigrant youth. Services are offered in English, Spanish, Mandarin and French. Immigration Resources include Know Your Rights, a Criminal Law Clinic open every Thursday from 3-5pm (contact Marlene Berroa at mberroa@door.org), application support for DACA, emergency intake, and pro bono support.

LGBTQ Services: The Door provides a range of programs geared towards Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender or Questioning (LGBTQ) members including counseling and sexual health workshops.

Familia: Trans Queer Liberation Movement

Web: familiatqlm.org

Email: info@familiatqlm.org

Phone: (714) 414-8171

Address: 634 S Spring St, 11th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90014

Familia: Trans Queer Liberation Movement was founded at the beginning of 2014 by trans and queer immigrants, undocumented and allies, youth leaders and parents. Familia: Trans Queer Liberation Movement (Familia: TQLM) is the only national organization that addresses, organizes, educates, and advocates for the issues most important to our lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) and Latino communities. Familia: TQLM is inclusive and serves all LGBTQ Latinos, Latinas, and gender nonconforming individuals. We also collaborate with non-LGBTQ families and friends who support our vision of a united LGBTQ Latino and Latina community.

Programs include Family Acceptance, which educates Latino families about the experiences of the LGBTQ community, increases the support of Latino families for the LGBTQ community and aims to establish a Latino family acceptance support network locally and nationally and work on the Not1More LGBTQ Deportation Campaign and #TransLivesMatter.

Freedom House

Web: freedomhousedetroit.org

Email: info@freedomhousedetroit.org

Phone: (313) 964-4320

Address: 2630 W. Lafayette Blvd. Detroit, MI 48216-2019

Freedom House is a temporary home for indigent survivors of persecution from around the world who are seeking asylum in the US and Canada. They provide housing, food, clothing, legal aid, medical care, mental health care, English as a Second Language classes, education, job training, recreation, transportation, and offsite housing after asylum is gained. Freedom House is a safe space for LGBTQ immigrants.

Freedom Inc.

Web: freedom-inc.org
Email: info@freedom-inc.org
Phone: 608-416-5337
Address: 1810 South Park Street, Madison, WI 53713

Freedom, Inc. engages low- to no-income communities of color in Dane County, WI. We work to end violence against people of color, women, those that non-traditionally gender identify, youth, and our elders, to promote a healthy lifestyle. We create healthy communities by campaigning against the root causes of violence, creating our own definitions of identity and resiliency, and empowering all community members as agents of change.

Our vision is to inspire and restore power to those most affected by violence through leadership development and focusing on community. All of our efforts are specific with regard to language, gender, generation and culture, so that we can ultimately produce lasting forms of social, political, cultural, and economic change.

Gay Asian and Pacific Islander Men of New York (GAPIMNY)

Web: gapimny.org
Email: gapimny@gapimny.org
Phone: (917) 838-7141

GAPIMNY is an all-volunteer, membership-based community organization with the mission to empower Queer & Trans Asian and Pacific Islander (API) people to create positive change.

GAPIMNY provides a range of political, social, educational, and cultural programming. It works in coalition with other community organizations, such as the National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (NQAPIA) and the Audre Lorde Project, to educate and promote dialogue on issues of race, sexuality, gender, and health. Some examples of programming include social outings, tours, workshops, discussion groups, and more.

GRIOT Circle (Gay Reunion In Our Time)

Web: griotcircle.org
Email: cathlene@griotcircle.org
Phone: (718) 246-2775
Address: 25 Flatbush Ave, 5th Floor Brooklyn, NY 11217

GRIOT Circle is a community-based, multigenerational non-profit organization serving LGBTQ elders of color. Most members reside in New York's metropolitan area, though GRIOT has members throughout the country. Most members are from modest-to-low income households; more than 50% are retired; and about 90% identify as black, African American or Caribbean American.

GRIOT Circle provides health and wellness services, such as a "Men over 50 HIV Support Group," a "Women's Support Group," a wood carving class, a book club, computer skills classes, nutritional education, health management, tai-chi, self-defense classes, cultural outings, and social activities. GRIOT provides leadership and volunteer opportunities as well as case management, a peer caregiver program, and a free meals program for seniors funded by the New York City Department of Aging.

HIV Law Project

Web: hivlawproject.org
Email: Legal Director Armen Merjian – merjian@housingworks.org
Phone: (212) 577-3001 *For New York City residents living with HIV/AIDS only
Address: 81 Willoughby Street, 5th Floor Brooklyn, NY 11201

HIV Law Project, a part of Housing Works, provides free legal services to residents of NYC who are living with HIV. Their practice areas include eviction prevention, immigration, public benefits, Social Security Disability/Supplemental Security Income, and future planning.

Immigration Equality

Web: immigrationequality.org
Email: Can email via website
Phone: (212) 714-2904
Address: 40 Exchange Place New York, NY 10005

Immigration Equality is a leading LGBTQ immigrant rights organization. They represent and advocate for people from around the world fleeing violence, abuse, and persecution because of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or HIV status.

For more than 20 years, they have been focused on providing free direct legal services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and HIV-positive immigrants, including: asylum seekers forced to flee to the U.S. to find safety, LGBTQ immigrant and binational couples and families separated by oceans, detainees trapped in immigration jail facilities, and undocumented LGBTQ people living in the shadows inside the U.S.

Immigrant Legal Resource Center

Web: ilrc.org
Email: N/A
Phone: (415) 255-9499
Address: Main Office – 1663 Mission Street, Suite 602 San Francisco, CA 94103;
DC Office – 1016 16th Street, NW, Suite 100 Washington DC 20036

The Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) works with and educates immigrants, community organizations, and the legal sector to continue to build a democratic society that values diversity and the rights of all people. The ILRC provides training and resources to ensure that legal services address these complex issues and are provided in a culturally competent manner. Please note that the ILRC does not provide direct legal services or individual legal consultations.

The ILRC provides training and resources to ensure that legal services address specific issues facing LGBTQ immigrants. Their manual, LGBTQ Immigration: Ensuring Equality for All, provides practice tips and legal guidance for service providers of all levels of experience.

Immigrant Rights Project at Sylvia Rivera Law Project

Web: srlp.org/about/legal-services/immigrant-rights-project
Email: info@srlp.org or email via website
Phone: (212) 337-8550
Address: 147 W. 24th Street, 5th Floor New York, NY 10011

The Immigrants Right Project at the Sylvia Rivera Law Project works with low-income people and people of color who are transgender, gender non-conforming, and/or intersex (TGNCI) who are either seeking legally-recognized immigration status, adjusting to a different immigration status or in danger of losing their immigration status and facing deportation.

Outcomes of their work include: Representation of TGNCI immigrants in affirmative applications for immigration status; Adjustment of immigration status of TGNCI immigrants in their paths towards U.S. citizenship, minimizing their vulnerability as under-documented immigrants; TGNCI immigrants with legal status obtaining gender-affirming immigration documents, including Employment Authorization Documents (EADs), green cards, and naturalization certificates; Legal support provided for other immigration needs as presented by the individuals who come in looking for TGNCI-friendly immigration services; and Holistic support of TGNCI immigrants in public benefits, healthcare, Social Security, including via coordination with other service providers working with the same individual.

Immigrant Youth Coalition

Web: theiyc.org

Email: Info@theiyc.org

Phone: (800) 559-6580

Address: 675 S. Park View St. Suite B. Los Angeles, California 90057

The Immigrant Youth Coalition (IYC) is an undocumented and Queer/Trans youth led organization based in California. Their mission is to mobilize youth, families and incarcerated people to end the criminalization of immigrants and people of color. Resources include Legal, Know Your Rights, Health Services, and Undocumented Student Resources. Check out IYC's website for extensive video coverage of members' activism and education.

Immigration Youth Justice League (IYJL)

Web: iyjl.org

Email: info@iyjl.org

Phone: N/A

Address: 4753 North Broadway, Suite 904 Chicago, Illinois 60640

Immigration Youth Justice League (IYJL) is a Chicago-based organization led by undocumented organizers working toward full recognition of the rights and contributions of all immigrants through education, leadership development, policy advocacy, resource gathering, and mobilization.

Latino Commission on AIDS

Web: latinoaids.org

Phone: (212) 675-3288

Address: 24 W. 25th Street, 9th Floor New York, NY 10010

The Latino Commission on AIDS is a nonprofit organization. In response to the critical, unmet need for HIV prevention and care for Latinos, a coalition of Latino leaders founded the agency in 1990. The Commission realizes its mission by spearheading health advocacy for Latinos, promoting HIV education, developing model prevention programs for high-risk communities, and by building capacity in community organizations. Through its extensive network of partner organizations and community leaders, the Commission works to mobilize an effective community response to meet the health challenges and address the impact of HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis & STIs in communities nationwide. The Latino Commission on AIDS has proudly served the Latinx LGBTQ population and is committed in creating and promoting a safe space. The Commission is the founder of the Hispanic Health Network, dedicated to eradicate health disparities in our communities.

Services and Programs include: Health Education, HIV Prevention, Counseling and Testing, Capacity Building Assistance, Advocacy & Awareness, Hispanic Health Behavioral Research, and Oasis, a Latino LGBTs Wellness Center.

LGBTQ Immigrant Rights Project by Association of Latino/as Motivating Action (ALMA)

Web: almachicago.org/immigration
Email: info@almachicago.org
Phone: (773) 234-5591
Address: 3656 N. Halsted St. Chicago, IL 60613

The LGBTQ Immigrant Rights Project by Association of Latino/as Motivating Action (ALMA) works with agencies, non-profit organizations, and legislative offices across Chicago to support key efforts aimed at addressing LGBT priorities within the immigrant rights movement. A key part of this effort is leading the activities of the emerging, non-partisan, LGBT Immigrant Rights Coalition of Chicago, including helping member organizations pass institutional policies that address these priorities. Members of the LGBT Immigrant Rights Coalition of Chicago include: The AIDS Foundation of Chicago, The AIDS Legal Council of Chicago, Chicago Community and Worker's Rights, Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois, The Immigrant Youth Justice League, The Jewish Council on Urban Affairs, National Lawyers Guild – Queer Caucus and Unidos: The National Latino LGBT Human Rights Organization. A complete list can be found on the website listed above.

Make the Road New York

Web: maketheroadny.org
Phone: (718) 418-7690
Address: 301 Grove Street, Brooklyn, New York 11237
Locations in Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, Long Island, and Westchester:
maketheroadny.org/contact

Our model integrates four core strategies for concrete change that millions of families feel every day:

Legal and Survival Services to tackle discrimination, abuse and poverty;
Transformative Education to develop community members' abilities to lead our organization, our movement, and society;
Community Organizing to transform the systems and power structures impacting our communities; and
Policy Innovation to rewrite unjust rules and make our democracy truly accountable to all of us.

Staff and members repeat a common refrain: "Make the Road is my second home." Regardless of immigration status, race, or gender identity, all find safety, support, and solidarity here. Everyone who comes with an individual story of abuse and exploitation finds that they are not alone – that in collectivizing our experiences and voices, we can build the power to change not just one case, but entire systems.

Mariposas Sin Fronteras

Web: mariposassinfronteras.org
Email: Contact via Facebook: facebook.com/mariposassinfronteras
Phone: N/A
Address: BorderLinks 620 S. 6th Ave. Tucson, AZ 85701

Mariposas Sin Fronteras (MSF) ("Butterflies Without Borders") is a Tucson, AZ based group that seeks to end systemic violence and abuse of LGBTQ people held in prison and immigration detention. MSF supports LGBTQ people currently detained in Eloy and Florence, AZ through visits, letters, bond fundraising, case support, advocacy, post-detention hospitality and housing upon freedom. Their website is in Spanish and can be translated into English.

**National Latina Institute
for Reproductive Health
(NLIRH)**

Web: latinainstitute.org
Email: HumanResources@latinainstitute.org
Phone: (212) 422-2553
Address: 50 Broad St. #1937 New York, NY 10004

The National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health (NLIRH) builds Latina power to guarantee the fundamental human right to reproductive health, dignity and justice; elevate Latina leaders, mobilize families and communities, transform the cultural narrative and catalyze policy change. NLIRH believes in the principles of salud, dignidad, y justicia (health, dignity, and justice) and work that is community rooted, culturally responsive, and sex positive. They focus on three critical and interconnected areas: abortion access and affordability; sexual and reproductive health equity; and immigrant women's health and rights.

Specific work revolves around issues related to: Reproductive Justice, Leadership Development, Opinion Research, Abortion Access, Young Parents, Immigrant Women, Contraceptive Equity, Healthcare Access, LGBTQ, and Cervical Cancer.

**National Queer Asian
Pacific Islander Alliance
(NQAPIA)**

Web: nqapia.org/wpp/programs-campaigns/immigration-rights/
Email: info@nqapia.org or glenn_magpantay@nqapia.org
Phone: Glenn D. Magpantay, Executive Director - (917) 439-3158
Address: NQAPIA PO Box 1277 Old Chelsea Station New York, NY 10113

The National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (NQAPIA) is a federation of LGBT Asian American, South Asian, Southeast Asian, and Pacific Islander (AAPI) organizations. Their ongoing immigrants' rights campaign speaks to the need for an all-encompassing immigration agenda and promotes understanding of the real experiences of diverse LGBT AAPI's. Such an agenda aims to reform the broken immigration system through legalization of undocumented immigrants, expanded visa programs for students and workers (both low-wage and professional), legal protections to guard against racial profiling, detentions, and deportations, fewer restrictions in political asylum applications, including lifting of the one year deadline, and protection of family immigration, including extending family sponsorship for bi-national same-sex couples.

Project Reach

Web: projectreachnyc.org
Email: socialjustice@projectreachnyc.org
Phone: (212) 966-4227
Address: 39 Eldridge Street, 4th Floor Chinatown, NY 10002

Project Reach is a youth and adult collaboration: a multiracial, multi-gender, grassroots, anti-discrimination, youth organizing center with a clear mission and commitment to challenging the destruction among, of, and between New York City's disparate youth communities. Project Reach provides crisis counseling and advocacy for youth of color, young women, immigrant/undocumented youth, LGBTQ and Two Spirit youth, youth with mental and physical differences, HIV+ youth and those living with AIDS, youth in foster care, homeless youth and court-involved or incarcerated youth. Resources include: Anti-discrimination trainings, counseling and crisis intervention, the LGBTQ Citywide Retreat, Outright Consortium Brunches, and Social Justice Bootcamps.

Pridelines

Web: pridelines.org
Email: info@pridelines.org
Phone: (305) 571-9601
Address: 6360 NE 4th Court Miami, FL 33138

Pridelines' mission is to support, educate and empower South Florida's lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth, as well as the community at large, in safe and diverse environments through affirming programs and services that promote dialogue, wellness and foster social change. Programs include Young Adults Taking Action, which focuses on sexual health and HIV/STI prevention education, Beyond the Binary, a peer-led group for transgender and gender nonconforming youth, as well as a number of groups providing support for folks dealing with HIV & AIDS.

Queer Detainee Empowerment Project (QDEP)

Web: qdep.org
Email: info@qdep.org
Phone: (347) 645-9339
Address: 505 8th Avenue #1212 New York, NY 10018

The Queer Detainee Empowerment Project (QDEP) assists folks coming out of immigration detention in securing structural, health/wellness, educational, legal, and emotional support and services. They work to organize around the structural barriers and state violence that LGBTQIA TS & GNC detainee/undocumented folks face related to their immigration status, race, sexuality, and gender expression/identity.

QDEP is a post-release support, detention center visitation, direct service, and community organizing project that works with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer, Two Spirit, Trans, Intersex, Gender Non-Conforming, and HIV+ (LGBTQIA* GNC TS) immigrant prisoners and their families currently in detention centers, those that have been recently released from detention centers, and those at risk at entering immigration detention in the Tri-State Area (Connecticut, New Jersey, New York).

Queer Undocumented Immigrant Project (QUIP)

Web: unitedwedream.org/our-work/lgbtq-justice/
Email: Email via website.
Phone: If you witness an I.C.E. Raid or any other immigration activity in your community, call their MigraWatch Hotline at 1(844) 363-1423
Address: Due to confidentiality and security, their locations are kept private

The Queer Undocumented Immigrant Project (QUIP), a program of United We Dream, seeks to organize and empower Undocumented Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer immigrants, LGBTQ immigrants and allies to address social and systemic barriers that affect themselves and the broader LGBTQ & immigrant community. QUIP's vision is to transform the immigrant and LGBTQ movements, to adopt an intersectional analysis in their efforts to advance and build power for the rights of both communities. QUIP implements its vision through the following strategies: Individual leadership/ chapter coaching & development; Engagement in targeted campaigns that affect the immigrant and LGBTQ community and lifts up an intersectional analysis; Raise the consciousness of immigrant and LGBTQ rights organizations through campaign engagements that promote interaction and collaboration between both communities; Build the capacity of immigrant youth organizations to engage in LGBTQ organizing and advocacy.

Sex Workers Outreach Project (SWOP-USA)

Web: new.swopusa.org
Email: support@swopusa.org (for general inquiries)
Phone: 877-776-2004 (x5)
Address: Sex Workers Outreach Project, 340 S LEMON AVE #7566, WALNUT CA 91789

Sex Workers Outreach Project-USA is a national social justice network dedicated to the fundamental human rights of people involved in the sex trade and their communities, focusing on ending violence and stigma through education and advocacy. There are many local SWOP chapters.

Southerners on New Ground (SONG)

Web: southernersonnewground.org
Email: kindred@southernersonnewground.org
Phone: (404) 549-8628
Address: PO Box 11250 Atlanta, GA 30310

Southerners On New Ground (SONG) is a regional Queer Liberation organization made up of people of color, immigrants, undocumented people, people with disabilities, working class and rural and small town, LGBTQ people in the South. They develop leadership, build their membership base, and identify and carry out community organizing projects and campaigns. SONG believes that Community Organizing is the best way to build collective power and transform the South. Out of this belief they are committed to building freedom movements rooted in southern traditions like community organizing, political education, storytelling, music, breaking bread, resistance, humor, performance, critical thinking, and celebration. Since 1993, SONG has used the following organizing tools to build common connections across different communities including: grassroots organizing, leadership development, deep analysis, listening and data collection, intergenerational relationships, the linking of social movements and good long-term planning.

Sylvia Rivera Law Project

Web: srlp.org
Email: info@srlp.org
Phone: (212) 337-8550
Address: 147 W 24th St, 5th Floor New York, NY 10011

The Sylvia Rivera Law Project (SRLP) is a collective organization founded on the understanding that gender self-determination is inextricably intertwined with racial, social and economic justice. SRLP seeks to increase the political voice and visibility of low-income people and people of color who are transgender, intersex, or gender non-conforming. SRLP works to improve access to respectful and affirming social, health, and legal services.

SRLP provides legal services to its community as well as events, campaigns and trainings. Programs include the Immigrant Rights Project, Prisoner Rights Project, Survival & Self Determination Project, Prisoner Pen Pal Postcard Project, Impact Litigation, Legal Observing, Public Education, and Grassroots Fundraising.

Transgender Law Center

Web: transgenderlawcenter.org

Email: info@transgenderlawcenter.org

Phone: (510) 587-9696; Collect line for inmates and detainees (510) 380-8229;
Legal Assistance (415) 865-0176

Address: PO Box 70976 Oakland, CA 94612-0976

The Transgender Law Center (TLC) is the largest national trans-led organization advocating self-determination for all people. Grounded in legal expertise and committed to racial justice, TLC employs a variety of community-driven strategies to keep transgender and gender nonconforming people alive, thriving, and fighting for liberation. Their policies and resources cover issues such as Family Law, Health, Housing, Identity Documents, Immigration, and Prisons and Policing. TLC offers assistance to transgender immigrants by reporting and filing complaints regarding ICE detention abuses, and by helping transgender immigrants in detention find immigration attorneys, advocate for obtaining appropriate medical care, and obtain documentation that matches their gender identity. TLC provides “know your rights” information to transgender asylum-seekers, and makes referrals or partners with local and national immigration attorneys to file civil rights litigation on behalf of transgender immigrants. In addition, they run the following programs: the Detention Project, Positively Trans (T+), and the Trans Immigrant Defense Effort (TIDE).

TLC: Black LGBTQIA+ Migrant Project (BLMP)

Through leadership development, capacity building, and organizing, the Black LGBTQIA+ Migrant Project (BLMP) addresses the ways in which our community is targeted by the criminal law and immigration enforcement system, and marginalized in the broader migrant community, and racial and economic justice movements. Housed at Transgender Law Center, BLMP was co-created and is staffed by TLC National Organizer Ola Osaze through a 2017 Soros Fellowship. Contact Ola: ola@transgenderlawcenter.org

BLMP aims to reduce isolation, build leadership, and protect and defend Black LGBTQIA+ migrants from increasing attack by holding community-building events around the country, providing legal support, increasing access to services, creating regional organizing networks, and launching the first-ever survey focused on our experiences.

Learn more: transgenderlawcenter.org/programs/blmp

REPORTS[◇]

[“Chronic Indifference: HIV/AIDS Services for Immigrants Detained by the US”](#)

Center for HIV Law & Policy

[Current Justice Campaigns](#)

LGBT Freedom and Asylum Network

[“Diagnoses and Prevalence of HIV Infection Among Hispanics or Latinos - United States, 2008–2013”](#)

Center for HIV Law & Policy

[“The State of Latinos in the Deep South: Being Visible by Piercing the Stigma Veil”](#)

Latino Commission on AIDS

LEGAL RESOURCES[◇]

[“How To Be An Ally”](#)

Southerners On New Ground

[Know Your Rights: Immigrants and HIV](#)

Center for HIV Law & Policy

[Lambda Legal: List of resources for LGBTQ immigrants and contacts](#)

[Getting Down to Basics: Tools to Support LGBTQ Youth in Care](#)

Lamba Legal

This is a report on LGBTQ youth living in and out of home care (foster care and juvenile detention). Specifically useful to health, legal, and social service providers are the Basic Facts about being LGBTQ, the Caseworkers with LGBTQ client section and the section on Attorneys representing LGBTQ clients.

[LGBT Freedom and Asylum Network](#)

List of Resources for Asylum Applications

[List of Legal Resources - Local and National](#)

[“Stronger Together: A Guide to Supporting LGBT Asylum Seekers in the US”](#)

[Immigrant Legal Resource Center](#)

LGBTQ Immigration Special Considerations Webinar

Focuses on cultural competency for legal practitioners working with LGBTQ immigrants; marriage-based petitions involving same-sex binational couples; asylum protection when persecution was based on gender identity or sexual orientation; and defense strategies for LGBTQ immigrants in detention.

[◇] *To read a report or visit a resource, click on the title.*

Marriage Equality in Immigration Law, Benefits for Same-Sex Married Couples

Informational Document from the Immigrant Legal Resource Center

Incorporating Sexual and Gender Minorities Into Refugee and Asylum Intake and Registration Forms

ORAM

“Being Lesbian In Iran”

OutRight International

“Addressing Police Abuse Toward LGBTI People in the Philippines”

OutRight International

Case Studies - Violence against Lesbians, Bisexual Women, and Trans People in Colombia, Iran, Malaysia, Japan, Philippines, Pakistan, Sri Lanka”

OutRight International

“Promoting and Protecting Human Rights in relation to Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Sex Characteristics”

Asia Pacific Forum

Trans/Queer Migrant Freedom Bond Fund

National fund to pay bonds of trans and queer folks who are incarcerated in immigration detention centers. Also called the Queer Detainee Empowerment Project.

Sex Workers Project: Know Your Rights Document

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