

# LGBTSA Newsletter

## LGBT Staff and Allies Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 6

September 3, 2013

### LGBTSA Outcomes: Annual Activity Report (8/2012-10/2013)

**LGBTSA Meetings (n=6):** 11/29/12, (no meeting 1/16/13- instead a social event), 2/29/13, 3/14/13, 4/25/13, (May and June filled w/ HEI trainings), 7/11/11, 9/19/13.

**LGBTSA Newsletter:** 6 published to date ([http://www.paloalto.va.gov/lgbt\\_newsletter.asp](http://www.paloalto.va.gov/lgbt_newsletter.asp))

**Community Outreach (n=4):** San Francisco Gay Pride Parade (6/30/13), San Jose Pride Booth (8/17/13- 8/18/13), 63rd Regional Support Center (7/25/13), VAPAHCS Mental Health Summit with community-based agencies and Veterans (8/29/13).

**LGBTSA Events (n=2):** 1 social gathering off-campus at Cheese Cake Factory (1/16/13) and planning a DOMA Repeal/Recent Marriage celebration for LGBTSA members in September or October.

**Staff and Community Trainings by LGBTSA Members (n=17):** Recreation Therapy (9/27/13), EEO Diversity LGBTSA Training (11/29/12), Nursing in Community Living Center (1/31/13), Integrated Ethics (2/6/13), Addiction Treatment Services (2/27/13), Social Work Supervision Group (3/29/13), Social Work Service (4/1/13), Director's Meeting (5/14/13), Stanford University Queer Health and Medicine Course (5/17/13), Community Living Center Social Workers (9/12/13), OEF/OIF/OND Case Managers (3/13/13), Nursing Grand Rounds (6/4/13), Human Resources regarding DOMA Repeal (7/17/13), 63rd Regional Support Center (7/25/13), American Psychological Association 2013 Convention, (8/4/13), Trauma Recovery Program (9/10/13 and 9/13/13), Livermore Social Workers (9/21/13), San Jose CBOC Social Workers (9/25/13).

**Safe Space Campaign:** Meeting with Public Affairs (1/17/13), Joint Diversity Committee (4/16/13), Public Affairs (6/16/13).

**HEI:** Meeting w/ Dr. EO and Beth Stovall (1/18/13), Committee Meetings 1/10/13, 2/29/13, 3/28/13. 30+ LGBTSA Members and VAPAHCS staff (including facility leadership) received 3 different free webinar trainings on LGBT culturally competent care from HRC HEI 1/13-6/13.

**Camouflage Closet Screenings (n=12):** EEO Film Review (5/22/13), Public Affairs Film Review (5/29/13), Public Film Screening in SF (6/3), Women's Outreach and Prevention Education Center (6/20/13), National Center for PTSD (7/17/13), Social Work Service @ PAD (7/19/13), San Francisco VA (9/13/13), Community Living Center Social Workers (9/12/13), Gay Lesbian Medical Association (9/19/13), OIF/OEF Case Managers (Sept/Oct), National LGBT Research Workgroup (10/1), and the San Francisco Veteran Film Festival (10/5/13).

**Outreach Materials:** VACO LGBT SEP Poster, LGBT Employment Brochure, provided language for the VAPAHCS 2013 Pride Observance in the Weekly Compass, and building a National List of LGBT SEPs.

**National LGBT Work:** Continued participation on the LGBT Employee Resource Group, the LGBT Research Workgroup and the LGBT email group.

**Special Recognition:** HEI LGBT Leadership Status and highlighted in [HEI Report](#), Award from Director Freeman for HEI, VAPAHCS received a ribbon from the 2013 SF Pride Parade for "Most Fabulous Contingent," submitted 19 LGBT Inclusion Initiatives to OHE (only 3 were requested per VA) garnering special recognition on the [OHE Inclusion Initiative SharePoint](#) for an LGBT Clinical Care Conference, and finally, the [HRC HEI Community Resources Website](#) highlights our outreach materials and LGBT Program webpage.

### Special points of interest:

- LGBTSA Annual Activity Report
- Clinical Resources for LGBT Veteran Care
- National List of LGBT SEPs

### Inside this issue:

Clinical Resources for LGBT Veteran Care 2 & 3

National List of LGBT SEPs 4

## Next LGBTSA Meeting

Thurs. 9/19/13  
Noon-1pm

VANTS Line  
1800 767-1750

Access Code  
86067



**LGBT Clinical Care Poster & Wall Paper** – The VHA LGBT Training Workgroup has developed a poster for your public and workforce areas. The poster is available in English and Spanish, sizes 8x11, 11x17, and 24x36. You can download these production ready files on their SharePoint Site at: <http://vaww.infoshare.va.gov/sites/LGBEducation> There are also LGBT trainings (PowerPoints with audio) regarding the relevance of sexual orientation in healthcare and Sexual History Taking for ALL veterans.

# We Serve All Who Served



**Excellent care has no boundaries. VHA is committed to serving Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Veterans.**



**VA** | Defining  
**HEALTH CARE** | **EXCELLENCE**  
in the 21st Century

Veterans Health Administration  
**Employee Education System**

Clinical Resources for LGBT Veteran Care continued...

Transgender Veteran Educational SharePoint- <http://vaww.infoshare.va.gov/sites/pcsclipro/trer/default.aspx>

LGBT VA Inclusion Initiatives- <http://vaww.vha.vaco.portal.va.gov/sites/OHE/Pages/LGBT.aspx>

VHA Office of Health Equity SharePoint- <http://vaww.vha.vaco.portal.va.gov/sites/OHE/Pages/Default.aspx>

VHA Diversity and Inclusion SharePoint- <http://vaww.wmc.va.gov/Diversity/default.aspx>

VA Diversity and Inclusion SharePoint- <http://www.diversity.va.gov/programs/lgbt.aspx>

To join the *National LGBT Email group*, email [Matthew.Bessell@va.gov](mailto:Matthew.Bessell@va.gov) or [John.Hall7@va.gov](mailto:John.Hall7@va.gov) (weekly emails)

To join the *National LGBT Research Group*, email [Kristin.Mattocks@va.gov](mailto:Kristin.Mattocks@va.gov) (monthly calls)

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proud to announce the launch of its new women Veterans hotline—**1-855-VA-WOMEN**—an incoming call center to receive and respond to questions from Veterans, their families and caregivers, about the many VA services and resources available to women Veterans. The service will begin accepting calls on April 23, 2013. The hotline is staffed by knowledgeable women VA employees who can provide information about benefits and health care services for women. Callers can be linked to information on claims, education or health care appointments as well as information about VA cemeteries and memorial benefits. Hotline staff can also answer urgent questions and provide referrals to homeless and mental health services as well as provide Vet Center information. For more information, please visit <http://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/wvcc.asp>

★ **WOMEN VETERANS HEALTH CARE** ★



**1-855-VA-WOMEN**  
**(1-855-829-6636)**  
 Women Veterans Call Center

**Make One Call**  
 Get the Information You Need

Hours of Operation  
 Monday – Friday: 8:00 am – 10:00 pm ET  
 Saturday: 8:00 am – 6:30 pm ET

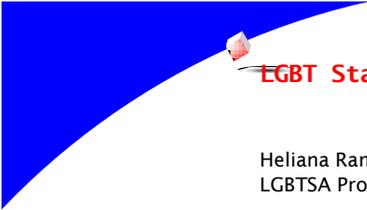
★ *You served, you deserve the best care anywhere* ★



Department of  
 Veterans Affairs

Learn more at [www.womenshealth.va.gov](http://www.womenshealth.va.gov)





## LGBT Staff and Allies Newsletter

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VAPAHCS LGBT Programs are online!  
Visit us at  
<http://www.paloalto.va.gov/lgbtsa.asp>

The VAPAHCS LGBT Staff and Allies is a group of over 30 VA employees who began meeting in April, 2012. The purpose of LGBTSA is to raise awareness about LGBT Veteran and employee experiences at VAPAHCS through a public relations campaign, staff training and resource development for the hospital system. Through community outreach, LGBTSA strives to increase VA enrollment among LGBT Veteran Patients and encourage employment applications from LGBT civilians and Veterans.

LGBTSA members work in a variety of departments across the VA Palo Alto Healthcare System including Social Work, Psychology, Medicine, Recreation Therapy, Engineering, and Housekeeping to name a few. Members identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and as allies to the LGBT community. LGBTSA welcomes anyone who is interested in making VAPAHCS the choice for LGBT Veterans seeking care and LGBT people seeking employment.

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### National LGBT SEP List

The National LGBT SEP List (N=74) was created for the purpose of establishing an LGBT SEP Mailgroup by the LGBT Employee Resource Workgroup's Public Relations Subcommittee member Heliana Ramirez. This list is based on John Hall's "LGBT National Statistics" from the LGBT email group (N=29), Sandra Laski's "National LGBT Groups and Activities" (N=50), and the contact people for LGBT SEP activities (N=49) reported on the "LGBT Inclusion Initiative" SEP Spreadsheet managed by Carlos Rodriguez of the Office of Health Equity. Here are the VAs identified with LGBT SEPs nationwide (organized by region):

1. VAMEHCS/Togus
2. Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital/Bedford
3. VA Central Western Massachusetts HCS
4. VA Boston HCS
5. Providence VAMC
6. Connecticut VA Connecticut HCS
7. Bath VAMC
8. Canandaigua VAMC
9. Syracuse VAMC
10. Albany VAMC Samuel S. Stratton
11. VA Bulter HCS
12. Erie VAMC
13. Philadelphia VAMC
14. Pittsburgh VAMC
15. Washington DC Medical Center
16. Beckley VAMC
17. Durham VAMC
18. Salisbury VAMC
19. Fayetteville, NC
20. Richmond VAMC
21. VAMC Salem, VA
22. Charleston Ralph H. Johnson VAMC
23. Tuscaloosa, AL Tuscaloosa VAMC
24. Atlanta VAMC
25. Bay Pines VAHCS
26. Miami
27. N. Florida S. Georgia
28. Orlando
29. San Juan
30. Tampa, FL James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital
31. West Palm Beach VAMC
32. VA Caribbean Healthcare System San Juan
33. Nashville, TN Tennessee Valley HCS
34. Louisville VA
35. Cleveland VA VHACLE
36. Cincinnati VAMC
37. VA Ann Arbor HCS
38. Richard L. Rodebush VAMC (Indianapolis)
39. Chicago, IL Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital
40. Milwaukee, WI Clement J. Zablocki VAMC
41. North Chicago, Captain James A Lovell Federal HCS
42. Wichita VAMC, Kansas
43. Leavenworth VA Eastern Kansas HCS- Dwight D. Eisenhower VAMC
44. Topeka VA Eastern Kansas HCS- Colmery-O'Neil VAMC
45. VA St. Louis HCS
46. Marion IL VAMC
47. Central Arkansas VAMC
48. New Orleans, Southeast Louisiana Veterans HCS
49. VA North Texas HCS
50. Phoenix VAHCS
51. Sheridan VAMC, WY
52. VA Eastern Colorado HCS
53. VA Salt Lake
54. Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial VAMC Walla Walla
55. Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center and Clinics
56. Portland VAMC
57. VA Puget Sound HCS
58. Alaska VAHS
59. Honolulu (PIHCS)
60. Fresno Northern Californian
61. VA Palo Alto HCS
62. Reno VA Sierra Nevada HCS
63. San Francisco VAMC
64. Loma Linda
65. Las Vegas
66. VA GLAHS
67. San Diego VAMC
68. Long Beach
69. VA Greater Los Angeles
70. Minneapolis VAHCS
71. Sioux Falls VAMC
72. St. Cloud Minnesota
73. Iowa City VAMC
74. St. Petersburg Regional Office (VBA) FL

\*\*Acronyms:  
VAMC=VA Medical Center  
HCS= Healthcare System