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TRANSGENDER LIVES

*The Intersection of Health
and Law Conference*

2007



April 14, 2007
University of Connecticut
Health Center
Farmington, Connecticut

Welcome

Welcome to the first
Transgender Lives: Intersection of Health and Law Conference!

April 14, 2007

Hello all conference participants. Thanks for being here today.

This conference has come together through the hard work of many people on the planning committee plus the many individuals recruited along the way to help out with specific tasks.

We hope you find your experience today to be informative and positive. We hope to provide new information to you and to provide old information in a new way that provides you with new or renewed perspective. We have combined the topics of health and law as we consider them to be related to each other.

We have compiled a resource guide utilizing information provided by Connecticut Transadvocacy Coalition, Hartford Gay and Lesbian Health Collective and the Connecticut Psychological Association, Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund, and the National Coalition for LGBT Health. We hope you find these materials to be useful.

Many thanks to our sponsors, volunteers, supporters, and donors who contributed to the effort to create this opportunity to present the conference for all of us.

Again, thanks for being here. Enjoy your day and have fun!

The Members of the Conference Planning Committee



University of Connecticut Health Center

Office of the
Executive Vice President for
Health Affairs

Dean, School of Medicine

April 14, 2007

Dear Conference Participants,

On behalf of the University of Connecticut Health Center Community, I welcome you and invite your constructive participation in this important conference to address the issues of both transgender health and law in Connecticut. The University of Connecticut Health Centers mission is to provide high quality health care derived from cutting edge research and education to all of the state's citizens. We are committed to diversity and to creating a welcoming environment for everyone.

We further understand that there are serious health access issues for the transgender community. This conference will help address these issues by educating transgender consumers about their rights to both healthcare and legal services, including housing, education and employment. It will also improve the knowledge and skills of health and law professionals by helping them understand the perspectives, needs and resources of the transgender community.

May your conference be a great success! "Transgender Lives: The Intersection of Health and Law" is an important educational offering that should help to eliminate prejudice and inequality and, thereby, will improve the health and access to services for the transgender community.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter J. Deckers".

Peter J. Deckers, M.D.
Executive Vice President for Health Affairs
Dean, School of Medicine

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Presenter Bio's

Teresa Younger is the Executive Director of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women where she started in December of 2006. Teresa brings significant management and policy expertise to PCSW, as well as a solid understanding of Connecticut and the legislative process. On her way to the PCSW, Teresa spent 5+ years with the ACLU both nationally and locally. Most recently she served as the Director of Affiliate Organizational Development in the Affiliate Support Department of the National ACLU in New York. During her tenure with the National office, she handled organizational development and management issues for the 50 affiliates across the country. Prior to joining the National ACLU, and had served as the executive director of the ACLU of Connecticut. She was the first woman and African American director in the affiliates more than 55 years of existence. She came to the ACLU with over 10 years of nonprofit management experience. Teresa serves on the AED New Voices National Advisory Board and the American Camp Association Public Policy Committee. She has been identified as one of the Top 40 Voices in Connecticut Under 40 by Connecticut Magazine, was a fellow with the America Leadership Forum in Hartford, and received the Connecticut NOW Prudence Crandall Award, UAW Region 9A Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Award and the Hartford Bar Association Liberty Bell Award. Teresa holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of North Dakota. She lives in Shelton, CT with her husband, Ronald Preston.

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Statement of Confidentiality

In an effort to ensure the safety and privacy of all conference participants, Transgender Lives requests that you respect the following rules and guidelines:

- No photographs or audio recordings without the consent of all involved.
- There will be video recording of the Opening Panel and selected workshops. Only presenters will be video recorded. Please see registration desk if you have questions regarding this taping.
- Do not sell or give away names, contact information, or other personal or identifiable information of persons involved with or participating in the conference without their express consent.
- Personal stories and information disclosed during workshops and informal gatherings should be considered confidential.

Conference Genesis

Not quite the bible story here. While there is a little story about how this conference idea began it isn't necessarily much different than how many things begin. Out of necessity.

I had been working on my Masters Degree in Public Health for a couple of years. In the fall of 2005, I undertook an independent study about transgender health and law. It became clear to me there were things that trans individuals needed to know, but didn't know, about the medical "system" and legal "system". These two systems are interdependent and clearly confusing under the best of circumstances. It was also clear that the providers and professionals in the medical and legal professions needed more information and guidance about how to help individuals in the trans community.

I spoke to my advisors at school about an idea I had for a school project. A way to continue to work on my degree and a way to give back to the community. They liked the idea of the conference and even agreed to be part of the planning committee. I spoke to a friend, who definitely thought this to be a great idea, and agreed to help make it a reality.

So, here we are. A need. An idea. Many, many willing and giving individuals. Today we have a conference designed to help trans individuals and the people who care about and care for them.

So, make sure you take the time to thank everyone who had a hand in making this conference happen. They deserve it.

I extend my personal thanks to Zita Lazzarini, Judy Lewis and Jerimarie Liesegang for being my first and continuing cheerleaders for this project.

Linda Estabrook

Presenter Bio's

Kim Moon As a mental health worker, student nurse, and transitioning trans person, Kim Moon hopes to use the combination of health care experience and training and personal experience of transition to promote education and communication between two groups whose relationship has often been impeded by mutual distrust and lack of understanding.

TR Richardson is a Trainer/Community Educator at Planned Parenthood of CT. In this role she provides education and training to teens, parents and professionals on the topics related to sexuality with a focus on working with people who have developmental and intellectual disabilities and those who love and care for them. She has been facilitating professional trainings and educational programs on an array of topics for over 12 years. TR received a Master of Arts Degree in Student Affairs in Higher Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a Bachelor of Science Degree from Muskingum College in Ohio. She also received certification as an HIV Educator and HIV Counselor from The State of Connecticut Department of Public Health.

Meg Hooper is Chief of the CT Department of Public Health's Planning Branch. The Planning Branch provides comprehensive health planning services and technical assistance to DPH staff and local, regional, and state partners. The Planning Branch encompasses the entire planning process including data surveillance, assessment, analysis, and research; priority and policy development; and developing the workforce to support the department's strategic plans and priorities. Meg was recently recognized with the Governor's Service Award for her contributions to Connecticut's emergency preparedness efforts and promoting public health planning. Meg has worked at DPH for the past 14 years after working in the Department of Corrections and the Capitol Region Council of Governments. Meg received her Masters in Public Administration from the University of Hartford.

Richard Bell is currently a second year resident in psychiatry at the University of Connecticut in Farmington, CT. He graduated from Tufts Medical School in 2002 and entered the psychiatry residency program at Boston Medical Center in 2005. In 2006, he transferred to the University of Connecticut psychiatry residency program. He has previously worked in infectious diseases and HIV.

Presenter Bio's

Deborah Bershel, MD graduated from Georgetown Medical School – 1981, following which she completed Family Medicine Residency from Eisenhower Army Medical Center- 1984. She has been in private practice in Somerville, MA since 1988. During this period she has held a number of teaching appointments as Assistant Clinical Professor Tufts Medical School, Clinical Instructor BU Medical School, Clinical Instructor Harvard Medical School. In 1981 Deborah changed her name from Roy Shelton to Roy Berkowitz-Shelton and in June of 2006 she began living fulltime as Deborah Bershel

Maureen M. Murphy earned her B.A. from St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana; M.S. Southern Connecticut State University - Special Education; J.D. Quinnipiac School of Law; and LL.M. New York University Law School. Ms. Murphy is a partner in the firm of Murphy, Murphy, and Nugent, LLC. She currently practices in the areas of civil litigation, civil rights and family law. Attorney Murphy has represented numerous LGBT plaintiffs in family and civil rights matters and is a frequent guest speaker on issues that impact the LGBT community. She authored "Connecticut's Civil Union Law: A Look Forward", which appeared in the October 2005 issue of Connecticut Lawyer Magazine and is a frequent speaker at educational forums, CLEs and bar association meetings. Attorney Murphy is cooperating attorney with GLAD in *Kerrigan v. State of Connecticut*, the Connecticut marriage equality case. She was the founder and co-chair of the Connecticut Gay and Lesbian Law Association, former counsel to the Connecticut Coalition for LGBT Civil Rights and she is currently a member of the Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund (CWEALF) Law And Public Policy Committee, Vice President of Liberty Community Services, and the former Vice President of and current legal advisor to Love Makes a Family. Maureen was the 2005 recipient of the Connecticut Chapter of the National Organization for Women Harriet Tubman award for social justice and the 2006 recipient of the New Haven Gay and Lesbian Community Center Dorothy Award.

Teo Yother draws both from his professional training as a psychotherapist and his personal journey through gender transition in an effort to bridge the gap between providers and transgendered clients. As an FTM living with HIV, he sees more than his fair share of medical providers. These experiences, both positive and negative, have challenged him to find ways to effectively partner with his caregivers.

Sponsoring Organizations

The **Community Based Education** (CBE) program at the University Of Connecticut School Of Medicine is committed to the principle that patients, health and disease must be viewed in the context of social, economic, political, and health system factors that significantly influence overall health. The goals of the Community Based Education experiences include: (1) an understanding of the relationship between community and social factors and health status, (2) developing the skills necessary to work in partnership with community programs and residents to promote (a) health and disease prevention, and, (b) disease management and support services, and, (3) the overall improvement of patient care.

The **Connecticut Department of Public Health** is the state's leader in public health policy and advocacy with a mission to protect and promote the health and safety of the people of our state.

The **Connecticut TransAdvocacy Coalition** [CTAC] mission is to improve, through Education, political and social Advocacy and Activism, societal attitudes and the law in order to achieve equal rights for the Trans and gender non-conforming individuals and communities. CTAC is a true grassroots and coalition oriented organization comprising individuals and organizations dedicated to the advancement and attainment of full Human Rights for all trans and gender non-conforming people in every aspect of society and actively opposes discriminatory acts.

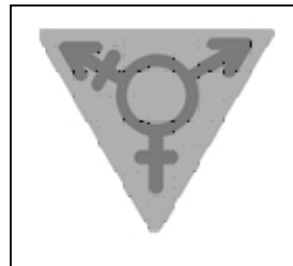
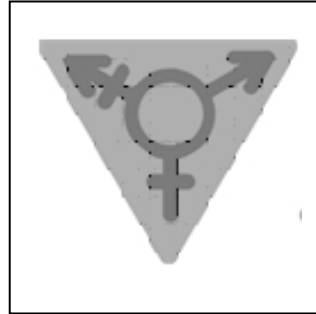
The **Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund** (CWEALF) is a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to empowering women, girls and their families to achieve equal opportunities in their personal and professional lives. For over 30 years, CWEALF has been a major force in the struggle to advance women's legal rights and is a vital resource to women and policy makers in Connecticut. With expertise in family law, sex discrimination in employment and education, and civil rights, CWEALF is motivated to create a society in which equity is the norm.

The **Hartford Gay and Lesbian Health Collective** has proudly served the LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities since 1983 providing medical, support, education and advocacy programs and services. Our mission is to empower individuals of diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions to lead healthy lives.

The mission of **Planned Parenthood of CT** is to protect the fundamental right of all individuals to manage their own fertility and sexual health and to ensure access to the services, education and information to realize that right. Help ensure that sexuality is understood as an essential, lifelong aspect of being human, and that it is celebrated with respect, openness, and mutuality.

Conference Organizers

Linda Estabrook
Jerimarie Liesegang
Judy Lewis
Zita Lazzarini
Amy Miller
TR Richardson
Teo Yother
Regina Dyton
Matt Anderson
Gina Corciullo
Barbara Curry
Janie Dunn
Lauren Dutton
Kris Fennie
Sara Ferah
Zil Goldstein
Scout Herzig
Laura Hoffman
Quinton Johanssen
Diana Lombardi
Kim Moon
Dave Panke
Mary Jane Panke
Anja Schaedler
Donna Shubrooks
Kris Robles



Presenter Bio's

education in community settings. This program provides required and elective experiences for medical, dental and public health students. In 1999, the CBE program was formally asked to lead the initiative in cross cultural skills education at UCSOM. Since that time a needs assessment was conducted and new curriculum designed. It has been successfully implemented and is continuously improved based on feedback from community, students and faculty. This curriculum includes sessions on GLBT health issues and communication skills Professor Lewis has served on many advisory committees on cross cultural issues and community advocacy, including the Steering Committee for "Transgender Lives: The Intersection of Health and Law" and serving as faculty advisor to the GayBiStraight Alliance (GBSA) at UCHC. She has presented her work at many national and international meetings.

Carole MacKenzie, LCSW is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, an AASECT Certified Sex Therapist in private practice in Hartford and a trans-friendly ally. Currently Carole teaches Human Sexual Behavior at the University of Hartford and has taught at the Antioch New England Graduate School and St. Joseph College. Over the last several years, she has presented Trans 101 for professionals at Our True Colors conferences. She is a member of PFLAG Hartford, The CT TransAdvocacy Coalition, the International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE) and the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (formerly HBDGIA).

Colleen Mullan, MSW *Legal Educator & Advocate* has worked for the Connecticut Women's Education and Legal fund since 2004 as a Legal Educator and Advocate. She provides legal information on family, employment, education and civil rights law **and conducts trainings and workshops on these issues**. In addition to helping people navigate the legal system, she also does advocacy for people who have filed complaints with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, **and has worked specifically on cases for individuals** in the transgender community. She completed her Masters in Social Work with a major in Policy Practice from the University of Connecticut in 2004.

Presenter Bio's

issues, and transgender issues; community organizing for political change in the transgender community; and mentoring transgender youth. He has written articles for What's Up magazine, Sojourner Women's Forum, and "Agitate and Activate", the introduction to Pinned Down By Pronouns, a 2003 Lambda Literary nominee anthology published by Conviction Books. He is also the creator of Gender Crash open mic, a performance space designed for transgender and queer performers which has been running for seven years.

Zil Goldstein is a WTF!? ~~trans person~~ wombat who spends most of her time being angry about gender, and the rest of it digging a cozy burrow and contemplating the privileges associated with a fancy liberal arts education. She has been working with CTAC since August, and loves having a productive avenue to vent her gender rage. She is currently in nursing school, and very much looking forward to graduating in May.

Robin P. McHaelen, MSW is the founder and current Executive Director of True Colors, Inc. Sexual Minority Youth and Family Services, a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization that works to create a world where youth, adults and families of all sexual orientations and gender identities are valued and affirmed. True Colors challenges all forms of oppression through education, training, advocacy, youth leadership development, mentoring and direct services to youth and those responsible for their well-being. Robin is the author of a Child Welfare League of America Journal article on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth issues curriculum (June, 2006). In addition, Robin has been a "Who's Who in America" designate since 2002, and is the recipient of numerous awards for her efforts on behalf of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex youth and families.

Judy Lewis is Professor of Community Medicine and Pediatrics at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine (UCSOM). She is a medical sociologist who has devoted her career to working in communities locally and internationally. Prof. Lewis developed the school-based clinic program in Hartford and has worked to improve the health of Hartford's children for over 30 years. She has worked on maternal and child health in Haiti for 18 years, and has worked on community health projects in Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Costa Rica, Puerto Rico and Malaysia. Prof. Lewis developed the Community Based Education (CBE) Program in 1984 to provide experiential

Logistics

Registration Desk

The registration desk serves as communication central for the conference. In addition to registration, there will be a troubleshooter at the info desk throughout the day. The registration desk will be staffed all day.

There will be a collection box at the registration desk for you to drop off your completed Conference and Workshop evaluation forms. We encourage you to take a moment, before leaving, to fill out these forms so that we may critique and continually improve the conference and workshop proceedings.

There will also be a collection box for the form: "What about the future?" If you would be interested in organizing or participating in the next Transgender Lives conference please fill out and submit this form. You can also use this form to be added to selective mailing lists.

Bathrooms

Main floor registration desk area and workshop room location bathrooms are labeled *All Gender*. The bathrooms in the greater Hospital area are gender-specific and also used by the general public. In those cases please choose the bathroom with the gender you most closely identify.

Resource Guide

We hope that you find the Resource Guide you received at Registration to be useful. Please feel free to provide feedback at resourceguide@transadvocacy.com

Schedule of the Day

8:00 am - 9:00 am	Registration with continental breakfast
9:00 am - 9:15 am	Welcoming Remarks
9:15 am - 9:35 am	Gunner Scott
9:35 am - 10:30 am	Opening Panel
10:30 am - 10:45 am	Break
10:45 am - 12:00 pm	Workshop session I (5 workshops)
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm - 2:15 pm	Workshop session II (5 workshops)
2:15 pm - 2:30 pm	Break
2:30 pm - 3:45 pm	Workshop session III (5 workshops)
3:45 pm - 4:15 pm	Closing Q&A, wrap up, closing remarks
4:15 pm - 5:00 pm	Reception

Presenter Bio's

Public Health in which she successfully represented seven same-sex couples denied the right to marry in Massachusetts. She was lead counsel in the cases of Albano et al. v. Reilly, challenging the Massachusetts anti-marriage ballot initiative, and Doe v. Yunits, representing a transgender student denied the right to attend school because of the clothing she wore, among many others. Jennifer is an Assistant Professor of Law at Western New England College. She serves on the Legal Committee of the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association, and is a founding member of both the Transgender Law & Policy Institute and the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition. Jennifer is a graduate of Wellesley College (1985) and the University of Chicago Law School (1992). She has also taught law at the Chicago-Kent Law School and is a former law clerk for Judge Michael Boudin at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

Alix Simonetti has been an attorney at the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities since 1992. She works in the Legal Counsel's office, representing the Commission at the Commission's Public Hearings (administrative law trials) and in court (housing discrimination litigation, administrative appeals of CHRO decisions, etc.). Prior to working for the Commission, Ms. Simonetti worked for the City of New York, Office of Labor Services (previously known as the Office of the Mayor, Bureau of Labor Services). She served as Assistant Director managing the area with the responsibility of monitoring and enforcing the contract compliance of the City's Supply and Service Contractors with the requirements of federal, state, and local anti-discrimination laws. Ms. Simonetti earned her Juris Doctor from New York Law School and Bachelor of Science in Industrial and Labor Relations from Cornell University. She is a member of the Connecticut Bar Association, where she serves as a member on the Executive Committee of the Labor and Employment Law Section and the Executive Committee of the Human Rights and Responsibilities Section. She is a member of the Connecticut Employment Lawyers' Association, and the National Employment Lawyers' Association.

Gunner Scott is a queer/transgender social justice activist. He is a co-chair and founding member of The Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition, on the board of advisors for the National Center for Transgender Equality, and on the Massachusetts Commission of GLBT Youth. His work includes providing training and education on LGBT partner abuse, LGBT health

Presenter Bio's

Linda Estabrook has been at the helm of the Hartford Gay and Lesbian Health Collective since 1989. In collaboration with staff, volunteers, clients and the board of directors she has nurtured a small grass-roots organization into a multi-service, multi population community based organization. HGLHC has served the LGBT and HIV/AIDS populations since 1983, and in recent years has added services specific to the transgender community including support groups and a transgender health screening day. Linda is extremely proud of the accomplishments of HGLHC and feels privileged to be able to continue to serve the community in her capacity as Executive Director.

Jerimarie Liesegang, PhD is a Transperson and long time Connecticut Trans Activist and Advocate. Jerimarie started the transgender grass roots advocacy organization - It's Time Connecticut over a decade ago that has evolved into the current Connecticut TransAdvocacy Coalition [CTAC], of which she is the founder and director. TransAdvocacy's mission is to secure freedom in Gender Identity and Expression through effecting legislative change, service provider policies and procedures as well as extensive one on one advocacy within the community. She has authored numerous published articles, spoken on many panels and presented workshops around Trans issues. She is a strong advocate of multi-issue organizing in the spirit of Audrey Lorde's vision that "There is no such thing as a single-issue struggle because we do not live single-issue lives."

Zita Lazzarini, J.D., M.P.H. teaches health law, bioethics, public health law, and human rights at the University of Connecticut Health Center and the Harvard School of Public Health. She is an Associate Professor and Director of the Division of Medical Humanities, Health Law, and Ethics at University of Connecticut Health Center. Ms. Lazzarini received her public health degree from Harvard School of Public Health, her law degree from University of California, Hastings College of Law, and her undergraduate degree from University of California, Berkeley. Ms. Lazzarini's areas of recent research include rapid assessment of law, policy and practice, public health law, privacy and confidentiality, human subject's regulations, HIV prevention among vulnerable populations, and health and human rights.

Jennifer L. Levi, Esq, Senior Staff Counsel, GLAD works on a wide range of cases defending the civil rights and civil liberties of gay men, lesbians, and transgender people. She was co-counsel in the case of Goodridge v. Dept. of

Plenary

Welcoming Remarks

Linda Estabrook/Jerimarie Liesegang, Conference Organizers and Meg Hooper, CT Department of Public Health Conference Sponsor.

Opening Plenary

Gunner Scott, queer/transgender social justice activist, will open the conference with a discussion around The Language of Gender ~ Trans 101. Gunner's presentation will present definitions of terms and explanations. We are hoping that this presentation will assist both our speakers and conference attendees to be on the "same page" regarding definitions and terms ~ setting the stage for the remainder of the day. This opening discussion will then be followed by a Panel Discussion around the Intersection of Health and Law for the Trans and Gender non-conforming communities and individuals. This four member panel is composed of two community people plus one legal professional and one medical professional who will speak more specifically about health and law, and the intersection of these two concepts in the lives of trans and gender non-conforming individuals. The panel members are: **Jennifer Levi**, Esq, Senior Staff Counsel for GLAD; **Deb Bershel**, MD; **Kim Moon**, Community Advocate and **Gunner Scott**, queer/transgender social justice activist. This panel will be moderated by **Zita Lazzarini, JD, MPH, UConn Health Center**. These panelists will present subjective and objective viewpoints touching on the following topics: access to health care, medical definitions, Standards of Care and personal experiences with the health care and legal systems.

Closing Panel

The conference will end with a Questions and Answers of various workshop presenters from the day. This Question and Answer session creates an opportunity for people to ask questions they may not have asked earlier in the day or hadn't yet thought of until they had "digested" information from earlier in the day.

Workshops

Workshop I, 10:45 - Noon

Protecting Your Relationships in and out of the Courts

Maureen Murphy of Murphy, Murphy and Nugent, LLC

Lecture Room A

Practical tips on how to protect your relationships through documents: what you need and when. Also, when your relationship breaks up, how to navigate the courts, how to deal with custody and visitation disputes, and how to best ensure that you are treated fairly by the courts, family services and other lawyers.

Transgender Legal Protections: Federal and State

Jennifer Levi, Esq, Senior Staff Counsel, GLAD

Room J

This workshop will focus on the legal protections for transgender people under Connecticut and federal law. It will discuss both the historical exclusions of transgender people under law as well as recent changes offering more hope for protection in employment, housing, education, and other areas. The workshop will also discuss the ways in which people can change government documentation to accurately reflect one's gender identity and some limits to doing so as well. Finally, as time permits, the workshop will address family law issues for transgender people.

Things You Need to Know about your Civil and Legal Rights

Teresa Younger, Executive Director, Permanent Commission on the Status of Women

Room I

A presentation about policy issues impacting the Trans and Gender non-conforming communities. Topics include areas such as renting an apartment, getting stopped by the police, being incarcerated and related civil and legal rights that all trans and gender non-conforming folks should know.

Workshop III, 2:30-3:45 pm Workshops

system to give us what we need so we can be comfortable in our own bodies. But what do we give up by ceding this comfort to the hands of health care professionals? We fight for better access to hormones and surgery, but what can we do beyond medical interventions to reclaim our bodies and make them our own? This session will be a conversation among trans folk (by the broadest definitions) about what we can do without medical interventions to make ourselves more comfortable in our bodies.

Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) and Transgender rights.

Alix Simonetti, Esq, Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities

Colleen Mullan, MSW , Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund

Room M

Transgender Discrimination - legal issues regarding protection against discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodation, how to file a discrimination claim at CHRO; the CHRO complaint process. Tips to help you through the CHRO complaint investigation and other complaint processing.

Bridging the Gap: Clients' Perspective

Teo Yother, Health Care Advocatae

Room K

This workshop aims at exploring the realities for transgender folks when trying to access health care through a guided dialogue. What are the barriers to care? What does it look like when it goes right? How can we empower ourselves and our providers so that we get the most out of the relationship? With a strong emphasis on finding workable solutions, Teo hopes participants will leave the workshop a renewed sense of hope.

Workshops

Workshop III, 2:30 - 3:45 pm

Getting a Grip on Gender: Transgender Youth in Education and Child Welfare

Robin P. McHaelen, MSW founder and current Executive Director of True Colors, Inc. Sexual Minority Youth and Family Services

Lecture Room A

Either/or. Male/female. Black/white. Much of our society, and as a result, the systems within it, live as if world exists in binary form. Both/and identities inherit in transgender, gender variant and gender fluid youth too often send the systems of education and child welfare reeling. As a result, children in residential treatment, foster care and juvenile justice are placed according to their genitals, not their gender. Educators are often unable to reconcile binary dress codes, gym and bathrooms in schools with the needs of their trans youth. This workshop seeks to: Identify some of the critical issues and obstacles that trans youth face; Brainstorm strategies with participants for reconciling the gaps in competent services for these children at school and in the system.

Healthcare for the Transsexual

Deborah Bershel, MD

Friends Room

A whirlwind tour through 'the' medical approach to healthcare for the transsexual. This will range from the history and physical exam to the various options for males and females. 'The' is in quotes because not much is etched in stone when it comes to transgender patients.

Loving Our Bodies

Zil Goldstein, Volunteer Coordinator, Ct TransAdvocacy Coalition

Jerimarie Liesegang, director, Ct TransAdvocacy Coalition

Room J

For too long, our community has been beholden to the medical

Workshops

Workshop I, 10:45 - Noon

Know Your Rights - The Legal Landscape for Trans and Genderqueer People in New England and Beyond

Gunner Scott, queer/transgender social justice activist

Jerimarie Liesegang, director, ct TransAdvocacy coalition

Room M

This workshop will provide a survey of the legal protections afforded to transgender and genderqueer people at the local, state and federal levels. Join us for a look at the recent increase in the number of trans-inclusive laws protecting people in cities and counties across the nation. We'll also consider the work that still needs to be done, and discuss the ways in which ongoing education and policy efforts are essential to making sure that positive laws make a real difference in peoples' lives.

Bridging the Gap: Providers' Perspective

Teo Yother, Health Care Advocate

Room K

This workshop will candidly explore the triumphs and struggles providers encounter when working with transgender clients. We will look at all aspects of care from what a client sees upon first entering an office/ clinic, to the forms and paperwork hurdle and finally to building a trusting relationship. Teo works from an empowerment model both for providers and clients. This starts with the assumption that most people truly want to provide quality care in a welcoming context, but may lack enough information, skills and strategies to always make this happen.

Workshops

Workshop II, 1:00 - 2:15 pm

Protecting Your Relationships in and out of the Courts

Maureen Murphy of Murphy, Murphy and Nugent, LLC

Room M

Practical tips on how to protect your relationships through documents: what you need and when. Also, when your relationship breaks up, how to navigate the courts, how to deal with custody and visitation disputes, and how to best ensure that you are treated fairly by the courts, family services and other lawyers.

Transgender Legal Protections: Federal and State

Jennifer Levi, Esq, Senior Staff Counsel, GLAD

Lecture Room A

This workshop will focus on the legal protections for transgender people under Connecticut and federal law. It will discuss both the historical exclusions of transgender people under law as well as recent changes offering more hope for protection in employment, housing, education, and other areas. The workshop will also discuss the ways in which people can change government documentation to accurately reflect one's gender identity and some limits to doing so as well. Finally, as time permits, the workshop will address family law issues for transgender people.

HOT & SEXY SAFER SEX FOR EVERYONE

TR Richardson, Trainer/Community Educator at Planned Parenthood of CT

Room K

During this interactive, trans inclusive session, participants will have the opportunity to learn hot and sexy methods of protecting one's self from STIs and unintended pregnancy. Since STIs do not discriminate, it is up to us to take the necessary precautions that could save our lives. And we will learn ways to make safer sex erotic and pleasurable for everyone, not to mention learn new many ways to love and protect our own bodies accurately reflect one's gender

Workshops

Workshop II, 1:00 - 2:15 pm

identity and some limits to doing so as well.

Inclusive Health Care, Counseling and Sex Therapy with Gender non-conforming Clients

Carole MacKenzie, LCSW is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, an AASECT Certified Sex Therapist in private practice in Hartford and a trans-friendly ally

Room J

Many gender non-conforming and sexual-minority clients find themselves having to educate their healthcare workers and therapists. What information is available to professionals about the sexual behavior, function and dysfunction of these individuals? How do clinicians who believe that all people should have access to comprehensive and accurate information about their sexual health and pleasure help gender non-conforming clients? First of all, clinicians must help and educate themselves. Transgender and transsexual clients deserve the same right to sexual fulfillment as all other people. This workshop will address some of the issues clients and healthcare professionals face as they struggle together to understand the diversity and paradoxes surrounding transgender identities and sexuality.

Addressing Mental Health Needs for Transgender individuals

Richard Bell, Second year Resident in Psychiatry at UCHC

Friends Room

Psychiatry has the potential to help the transgender individual with often long-standing social isolation and psychic distress. While transgender individuals often face mental health issues unique to the Trans community, they may also suffer from mental health issues common to the entire population. Through shared honesty, education and insight, the psychiatrist and the transgender individual can work together to address all of the individual's mental health needs.